Earth First!

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March 21 — THE *RADICAL* ENVIRONMENTAL JOURNAL — $3.50

Pacific Lumber Threatens Headwaters

Owl Creek Victory Triggers Plans for Revenge

BY MARBLE C. BYRD

Days after a legal victory for the elusive marbled murrelet, Pacific Lumber announced a plan to log Headwaters Grove—the largest unprotected redwood grove on Earth and prime habitat for this rare bird. On February 27, Federal District Court Judge Louis Bechtle ruled in *Marbled Murrelet v. Pacific Lumber Company*, that logging of the redwood-laden Owl Creek grove in southern Humboldt County would threaten this rare seabird and adversely impact its old-growth habitat. The strongly worded decision was a sweeping indictment of the way Pacific Lumber Company (PL) conducts business, citing fraudulent wildlife survey techniques as unreliable and "highly suspect." The lawsuit, filed by the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC), stems from PL's illegal logging of ancient redwoods in Owl Creek during the Thanksgiving Day massacre of 1992, in which Earth First! successfully shut down logging through three intense days of direct action.

The marbled murrelet is listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) due to destruction of its habitat, primarily from logging. The federal judge permanently enjoined logging in Owl Creek and concluded that implementation of PL's proposed Timber Harvest Plan (THP) would sufficiently "harm" and "harass" the murrelet to constitute a "take" of the species under the ESA. This case is one of the early challenges to logging on private land under the ESA, and we have already witnessed a backlash from property rights advocates and Wise-Use cronies in the pro-timber media on the North Coast.

CDF Grants Exemption

Just three days after the Owl Creek victory, PL announced that they were going to lift their five year moratorium on logging Headwaters and begin cutting in the Headwaters Grove. PL filed a THP with the California Department of Forestry (CDF) to punch a road into the heart of the Headwaters Grove, and a 6000-acre exemption to log "dead, dying, and diseased" trees in this pristine ancient forest.

As shown in the Owl Creek case, even PL's own maps designate this area as extensive marbled murrelet habitat. The PL "moratorium," of course, was never really voluntary. Eight lawsuits by EPIC and the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund since 1986 have halted all of PL's illegal attempts to log Headwaters by upholding otherwise unenforced state and federal wildlife laws.

The exemption is particularly significant in that it allows PL to remove ten percent of forest volume with absolutely no environmental review or agency approval. After nine years of injunctions and protests, it is fitting that PL would attempt to make its final move by circumventing the law entirely. They actually claim that the forest is diseased and needs thinning because there has never been logging in it.

Predictably, PL claims that the recent court ruling has no implications on the new filings, despite the fact that the decision clearly states "...the harvesting of THP-237 [Owl Creek], or any other significant portion of the marbled murrelets' critical nesting habitat in southern Humboldt County, will result in a high probability that the remaining population of marbled murrelets in this region will become extinct."

Photo by Giss Van Vliet

The plaintiff in Marbled Murrelet v. Pacific Lumber Company.

Victory for the Murrelet

The Owl Creek ruling was a major indictment of PL's scientific methodology and credibility: "...there is sufficient evidence in the record for the court to find that PL administered its marbled murrelet surveys at THP-237 with the intent to either avoid detecting marbled murrelets or, to the extent that making detections could not be helped, to grossly understate the marbled murrelets presence in THP-237."

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Chinook Salmon Nearly Gone from Idaho

BY ERIK RYBERG

I am growing increasingly ill-humored about chinook salmon. My demeanor has become sullen, my moods are universally black and a dark cloud seems to hang about my person, a cloud of anger, of hatred; a cloud of resentment.

I resent that an army of dull-witted self-satisfiers came to Idaho a few decades ago and, eyes aglow with greed and fogged by visions of numberless electrical appliances, began to build dams. In *Hell's Canyon! In Hells Canyon!* How can it be? There is just no explaining it. A person could grope about for an answer all his life and not find one, even a puny little unworthy one. A person could devote every minute of every hour of her every day dedicated to the single pursuit of some fragment of understanding, and she would die alone, unhappy, and broke from the unrelenting toil of it.

The thought that someone would willingly trade Hell's Canyon and Snake River chinook salmon for a blow-dryer and a bathroom fan is just too awful to ponder. I urge you, reader, do not begin, for you will end up like me. Your friends will leave you, unable to endure your maddened and solitary foulness.

Nobody knows a god-damned thing about Snake River chinook salmon, which suits me just fine. Nobody knows why it enters their head one day to light out for the ocean, after one or two years spent at their birthplace up in the mountains of Idaho. And, nobody knows why, two or three or four or five years later they decide to come back from their fishy wanderings off the coast of Alaska. And I mean *back*. Back to the very same spot they were born, and *they're serious about it.* These fish *mean business*. These fish *don't compromise*. These fish are *tough* . These are *wild* fish, and they don't pause for any sight-seeing, either. They don't make any wrong turns; they don't mess about with fruitless small-talk, they don't take no for an answer. They aren't like those *hatchery* fish, those poor little brainless things with big-city angst and a bad sense of direction. No, these are some bad-ass fish, and if you ever

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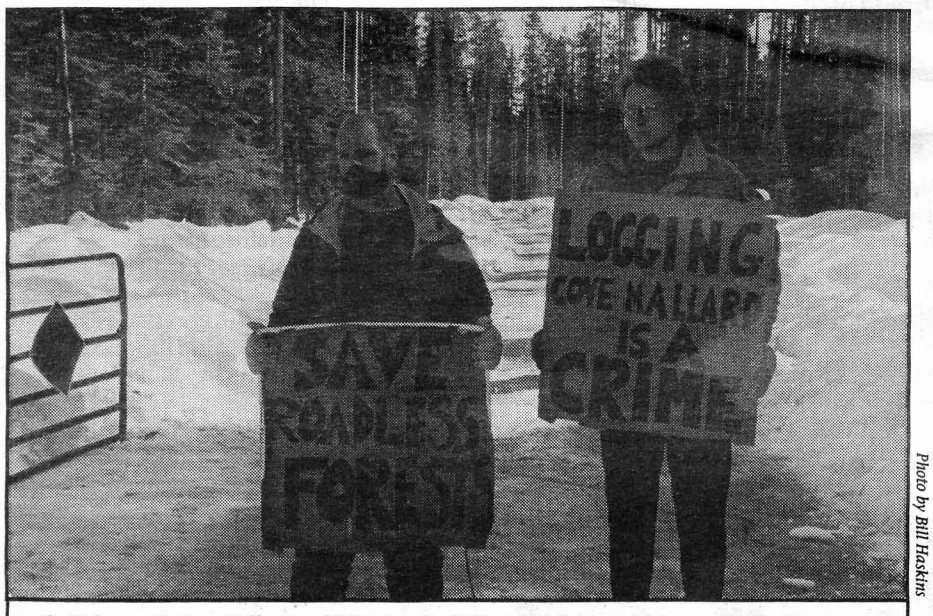

Photo by Bill Haskins

On February 8, Tom Fullum and Mike Roselle (Mike's the short one) became the first two protesters arrested under the Idaho "Earth First! law" when they blocked the entrance to the Noble Road outside the Cove/Mallard Timber Sale in Idaho. The felony and misdemeanor charges against both were later dismissed.

The Noble sale, the second of nine to be cut at Cove/Mallard, consists of 18 logging units containing 11.5 million board feet. Four clearcuts were completed after The Wilderness Society (see subsequent stories this issue) dropped its lawsuit. The Noble Sale is on hold now until the end of elk calving season in mid-June. However, the Freddies can still go into non-calving areas like the Jack Sale—awarded to Shearer Lumber of Elk City in February—and roadbuild this spring when the area dries out.

Rod Coronado Accepts Plea Bargain—see page 8

EARTH FIRST!

NO COMPROMISE IN THE DEFENSE OF MOTHER EARTH!

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AFTER THE FALL: STRATEGY WITHOUT LAW

BY CRAIG BENEVILLE

While this America settles in the mould of its vulgarity,
heavily thickening to empire,
And protest, only a bubble in the molten mass, pops
and sighs out, and the mass hardens,

I sadly smiling remember that the flower fades to make
fruit, the fruit rots to make earth.
Out of the mother; and through the spring exultances,
ripeness and decadence; and home to the mother...
—Robinson Jeffers

Things are bad.

It is not exaggeration to say a thirty year history of environmental law is being thrown away before our eyes.

With the dismantling of environmental law, the direct action environmental movement is poised for a resurgence—if only for the unfortunate reason that it is the last line of defense against the corporate marauders. If this resurgence is to be effective, however, it is vital that we be politically smart; we need to be conscious of strategy.

We flounder because we tend to operate under textbook notions of democracy rather than real ones. In particular I refer to the notion that political decisionmaking is a matter of competing interest groups vying for the support of impartial political representatives who carefully weigh competing alternatives. The environmental movement becomes one more interest group, counterbalanced by the interest groups of the logging industry or development or mining. This textbook notion says that if only we lobby hard enough, if only we can rally the numbers, write enough letters, make enough phone calls, then the decisions will be made in our favor.

This assumption is wrong.

The point we miss is that business and industry are not so much an interest group as they are partners of the government, whose role it is to see to it that the day-to-day workings of empire are completed. The workings, that is, of employment, of the movement of commodities, of the exploitation of natural resources that fuel our society. If government does not provide the proper incentives (i.e., lax environmental regulations), industry will simply stop providing these functions. Business has, in the words of political scientist Charles Lindbloom, a "privileged position" in our society, one eagerly granted by politicians whose number one criteria for popularity (and hence, survival) is the state of the economy.

Policy is imprisoned; politicians are constrained in their range of policy alternatives to those which will not unduly affect business in its role. To go outside these boundaries is to risk our society's one true sacred cow: the economy. No politician will risk the economy because it is the primary measure of political success, and ones that do will not remain in their position long.

There is, then, a *structural impediment* in our system of governance which, ultimately, is nearly insurmountable for lobbying to overcome. We can gain certain victories; the system is not completely impermeable, especially to legislation not perceived as an economic threat. But the bottom line is that when there is a serious collision—or the *perception* of a serious collision—between environmental law and the economy, the economy will emerge the victor.

This is all an overcomplicated way to say nothing new: the system is stacked against us. Power and money rule. Economics *über alles*. But I bring it up because examining the wreckage of the environmental movement (and let's face it, it is a wreck), I can't help but wonder if part of the reason for the crash was an acceptance of the political order; that is, an overwillingness to work through "proper" channels. Channels that by default tacitly support the existence of a system whose foundations are contrary to the goals we are pursuing.

Which brings us back to strategy. There is general consensus within the EF! movement of the need for a fundamental change. That much is clear to anyone paying attention. What is less clear, however, is how the needs of biodiversity are best served in the near future. In light of the structural barriers discussed above, should we pursue avenues of resistance that are more overtly revolutionary? Or would biodiversity be best served by a strategy that acknowledges the limitations within the system, but works for the strongest law possible because hopes of radical reform are too utopian? Perhaps we would be best off focusing less on law and more on making life hell for the eco-plunderers in the field?

Send your answers in to the *Journal*, address at right.

* * *

Some general housekeeping. We are still looking for a fourth long term editor. Give us a call if you're interested. Or come out to Eugene for just one issue, as a short term editor.

Judging from the mail, there seems to be some misperceptions about the "great tree spiking debate." Some people seem uncomfortable with the disagreement within the paper, urging for more unity and less divisiveness. "What's going on?" they ask. Well, the Journal staff in fact solicited the spiking articles. There was a feeling both among the staff and within the movement that the discussion had been suppressed, and it was time to fully bring it into the open.

We hope to continue to bring equally controversial topics to the pages of the paper, and that people can continue to articulate their positions respectfully, avoiding the petty personal condemnations that have plagued our pages in the past.

Errata

In the last issue, we failed to credit the *Wild Forest Review* for allowing us to reprint Jeff St. Clair's article "Losing it at the Courthouse." You can contact them at PO Box 86373, Portland, OR 97286, phone (503) 788-1994. Subscriptions to this incisive—and always interesting—publication are $25.

Eostar *by Peggy Sue McRae*

Eostar, Saxon Goddess of Spring takes the form of a white rabbit. She brings the dawn. The sun rises at equinox directly out of the east. Across bright spongy earth shafts of sunlight dazzle dew refracting golden colors. In ancient days it is said that the blue robed druid priestesses used gorse blossoms to dye eggs scarlet in honor of the sun. Spring Equinox is sacred to the Norse Goddess Iduna. Iduna grows magic apples in her western garden and on the first day of Spring she turns herself into a sparrow to bring joy into the world.

In Spring memory mingles with desire to create new growth. Roots reach hungrily into decay for nourishment. Leaves uncurl yearning for warmth and light. Unavoidable risks are taken. Eggs crack open. Tulips burst into flaming red and yellow stripes. Frogs sing. Bears wake up hungry.

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Earth First! Journal is a forum for the no-compromise environmental movement. Responsibility rests with the individual authors and correspondents. The contents do not necessarily represent the viewpoint of this newspaper, the Earth First! movement, local Earth First! groups or individual Earth First!ers.

Submissions are welcomed and should be typed or clearly printed. Send a SASE if you would like them returned. If you want confirmation of receipt of a submission, please request it. We encourage submissions on Macintosh disks or via EcoNet. Art or photographs (prints are best, negatives are good, slides are fair) are desirable to illustrate articles and essays. They will be returned if requested.

All submissions are edited for length and clarity. If an article is significantly edited, we will make a reasonable effort to contact the author prior to publication.

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SCHEDULE

Earth First! Journal is published 8 times a year on the solstices, equinoxes, and cross-quarter days: November 1, December 21 or 22 (Winter Solstice), February 2, March 21 or 22 (Vernal Equinox), May 1, June 21 or 22 (Summer Solstice), August 1, and September 21 or 22 (Autumnal Equinox). One-year subscriptions in the U.S. via third class mail are $25. First class delivery is $35. Outside the USA, surface delivery is $35 and airmail is $45. Corporate and law enforcement rate is $45.

Deadline for the next issue is:

April 17

Cashing Out: Corporate Environmentalism in the Age of Newt

The following is a transcription of a speech Jeffrey St. Clair delivered on a lively panel discussion entitled "Foundation/Corporate Control Over Environmental Organizations" at the recent Land Air Water Conference in Eugene, Oregon. On the panel with St. Clair was Michael Donnelly and Wise Use leader Ron Arnold, who shared the results of his investigations into the environmental movement.

When word leaked out that Donnelly and I had invited Ron Arnold to be on this panel, the mainstream greens that I know went apoplectic. I got 12 or 13 well meaning but frightened folks calling me demanding that he be kicked off. There were nasty faxes, obscene E-mails; they said Donnelly and I would be perceived as traitors. I was thinking, well, we've already been called that.

This is, of course, absolute hysterical nonsense. If we have any chance of prevailing as a political movement, as a movement for social change, we have got to demystify our so-called opposition. Cut behind the demonizing propaganda, the outlandish rhetoric. Who knows? Perhaps we'll find some common ground. Perhaps we'll even find some common enemies, like transnational corporations, a malevolent central government, even some environmental corporations. You gotta say this for Ron though, because he's been quoted, and I don't know how accurately it is (God knows), as saying he is obsessed with destroying the environmental movement. All I can say is Ron, you might want to get a new obsession, because we've got some national environmental groups like The Wilderness Society and the Sierra Club that are doing a damn fine job of that right now.

I just returned from a week in DC, up on the hill (hell) and its a bleak landscape you know. There's a dark cloud spreading out from the capitol across the country. I think, however, our national environmental leaders, though they would sooner perish than admit this, but they see a silver lining to these sable clouds that loom over our capitol. Already their vast direct mail machinery is cranking out a dark litany of threats to the environment and a desperate cry for cash to fight the dreaded Newt.

The precedent is James Watt. The venal but utterly harmless Watt was a bankbook bonanza to these groups, who cast the Reagan's Interior Secretary as Ghengis incarnate. Memberships doubled, budgets tripled, everyone packed up. They hired CEOs for 6 figure salaries. They closed their grassroots office and moved to headquarters. Glossy ones in DC.

But there was a terrible price to pay for this. As Dave Foreman recounts in his book *Confessions of an Ecowarrior*, the so-called "Watt effect" quickly neutered the environmental movement as a political force. I don't think there's a better word for it today either because I think they've been re-Newtered.

In the 1980s [the environmental movement] became soft, it became corporate, it became politically ductile. What it gained in techno analysis, and lawyerly clout, and legislative access, it lost in vision, it lost in common sense, it lost in a connection with the people. And it lost in effectiveness.

Meanwhile, the corporate headquarters of America had been economically bruised by the environmental movement, the grassroots environmental movement of the 60's and the 70's. They'd been frustrated by the inability of their Reaganite friends like Watt and Anne Gorsuch-Burford to gut federal regulations. But they found a better path to mastery over these groups. Buy them! Turn them into us! Contributions from corporate foundations to national environmental organizations soared during the 1980s, accounting for a significant, if not controlling, portion of the budgets of groups like the Natural Resources Defense Council [NRDC], the Environmental Defense Fund, and The Wilderness Society. And the key foundation players here, who are they? Who are these key foundation players? Rockefeller, Pew, W Alton Jones. These are the philanthropic subsidiaries of the major US owned oil companies. And they advocate extremely conservative social agendas.

One of the biggest funders is Pew Charitable Trust. They pack a four-billion dollar endowment. They distribute millions. Across the spectrum—from right-wing causes like the Billy Graham crusade, the Christian anti-communist crusade and the wretched Hudson Institute—to the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund [SCLDF] and the Western Ancient Forest Campaign. Why?

"I pledge allegiance to the foundation that gives me money..."

Do you know the first grants Pew gave out were to suppress civil rights demonstrations in the workplace back in the forties and the fifties? These are the kind of foundations that we are taking money from. They have an agenda. The Pew family, by the way, were early and lavish supporters of Bill Clinton's Democratic Leadership Council. There is a connection with Clinton that goes very deep. Now like the old oil monopolies, the big eastern foundations that now run the environmental movement don't act alone. They pool their resources under the auspices of the Environmental Grantmakers Association, a powerful conclave of 165 private foundations that provide most of the $350 million dollars issued annually to the big environmental groups. And at the nexus of this operation is Donald Ross, director of the Rockefeller Family Fund, and an expert in the devices of what the philosopher Michelle Foucault calls "condescending philanthropy."

In 1992, at a meeting of the grantmakers, Ross boasted that, "The funders now have a major role to play" in dictating the strategy and tactics of major environmental campaigns. "I know there are resentments in the community toward funders doing that, and too bad. We're players, they're players."

Now the eve of our fall election 13 years after James Watt, at least two of the big green organizations, National Audubon Society and The Wilderness Society were low in the water; they were swamped with high overheads, swollen staff, declining budgets. And most of the others weren't any better off—the Sierra Club faces a three million dollar debt.

You know you think back and its been almost 25 years since the tremendous victories of the late sixties and early seventies, when we had the Endangered Species Act passed, the Clean Water Act, the [National Environmental Policy Act] were passed. And since then, the principal strategy of these corporate groups has been to stop the weakening of old laws, not to pass new ones—even as the ancient forests are being cut down. Even as more and more species are going on the endangered species list. They became managers, not organizers.

And the Wise Use movement, headed up by former Sierra Clubber Ron Arnold (and many factions of which, by the way, are staked like the big greens by oil companies), they were able to score a lot of their hits and rally populist opposition precisely because so many of these charges—the changing character of the environmental movement—rang true. It looked elitist, it looked highly paid, it looked detached from the people, indifferent to the working class. It looked like the firm ally of big government.

Once revered and feared as the most effective public interest movement in America, the environmental movement is now accurately perceived as just another well-financed—and cynical—special interest group, its rancid infrastructure supported by Democratic Party operatives, and millions in grants from corporate foundations.

The surest sign of the decadence in a political and social movement is its engagement in the suppression of internal dissent. Such a decadence now erodes the moral core of the environmental movement. Stray beyond the margins of permitted discourse, publicly critique the prevailing strategy, strike out in a new direction, and the overlords of the environmental movement crack down. They enfilade the insurgents

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Letters

Dear friends:

Recently, we here in Moscow, Idaho, were privileged to attend first, a reception in honor of, and then a speech given by John Roush, the President of the Wilderness Society—That's right, the same organization that won a court injunction against logging, grazing and mining on 6 Idaho National Forests in January and promptly turned around and begged the Judge to suspend it until March 15, when they realized that those in the rape and pillage industries weren't going to like it. As you can well imagine, those of us here in town who have been pulling for the salmon and Cove/Mallard weren't too pleased with Mr. Roush and his cohorts and we turned out to let him know about it with flyers denouncing the TWS's wimpiness and hard questions after his "talk"—some Chamber of Commerce speech about overpopulation being a problem—wow—he really stuck his neck out there! He didn't have much to say, and told us he couldn't give us any reasons for the reversal on the injunction, but did say he wasn't sure they had made the right decision, and invited me to send him any information I thought he ought to have about Cove/Mallard and other reasons why that injunction might have been so important to us. I thought I'd pass the invite along. It would be great if a bunch of you out there sent Mr. Roush "civil" but clear letters about ways The Wilderness Society can be helpful rather than the opposite and issues here and why. So here's his address: G. John Roush, President, The Wilderness Society, 900 Seventeenth Street NW, Washington, D.C. 20006-2596.

In response to Tuber:

You asked "Why is it I'm not supposed to go out back and get an egg, but it's all right to buy an organic orange that came here on a truck clear from Florida?" Answer: You're not supposed to go out back and get an egg for environmental, ethical, and health reasons, and it isn't all right to buy an organic orange that came all the way here from Florida. It's best to eat low on the food chain, foods that are grown locally, and in season. I know some vegans do eat shipped, out of season produce, but that doesn't mean it doesn't make sense to be vegan. It just means being vegan isn't everything. Do you know a lot of consumers of animal products who refuse to eat transported out of season produce, all of it? (don't forget coffee). And do you really have eggs in your back yard?

—Roxane George

Dear Earth First:

I for a very long time was one of your admirers and sympathizers "from afar." Your direct action, no BS approach had a lot to commend it, and still does.

Finally, I got your Oregon phone number and requested a subscription form and a recent sample copy. While there was some serious analysis and good reporting, two negatives really stood out. One, the constant adolescent patter of dumb swear world, gutter expressions, tough talk nonsense. Two, the half tongue in cheek, half dead serious insert about the alleged criminal idiocy of having children, and the corollary, the quicker the human race is exterminated, the better.

Since these two "items" seem to be endemic and typical (I've read a few other issues of *EF!J*), and not just the eccentricities of one or two immature egos who write for and to your paper, I've lost interest in becoming a supporter and subscriber. (I was also all set to solicit a dozen or so people I know in several environmental and hiking clubs.)

Radicalism need not be moronic; nor should you persist with the simplistic thesis that mankind by definition is the eternal enemy of Nature. If you take these words to heart. I wish you well.

Yours Sincerely,

—Pinchas Baram

WARNER CREEK SALVAGE SALE GOES TO COURT

BY TAHOMA

Three and a half years and still going, the saga of the burned Warner Creek forest continues. The Forest Service continues to face environmentalist wrath over its scandalous arson-salvage "owl habitat recovery" project, yet seems almost hell-bent on burning its credibility with the public. Apparently, setting the precedent of salvage logging in an arson-burned habitat reserve is so important to the timber bosses that it is worth any cost to the agency's PR (public respect).

The Freddies faced back-to-back appearances over Warner Creek before the court of public opinion and a court of law. On Feb. 28, EF!ers staged a rowdy mock trial that made a mockery of the agency and its bosses. On the steps of the Willamette Forest Supervisor's Office (next door to the Federal Courthouse) EF!ers convened the "Animal-People's Court." A dozen people in critter costumes performed a "gorilla" theater skit before a hundred howling ecodefenders and a pack of media hounds. With the venerable Mother Nature (the *ultimate* judge) presiding, the critters accused the Freddies of various crimes against Nature. Charges included: reckless endangerment of species, extinction without a license, operating a government agency while intoxicated with greed, and deforestation without representation. Plaintiffs, represented by Gray Wolf, Black Bear, Spotted Owl, Flying Squirrel, Tailed Frog, Chinook Salmon, Douglas-Fir, and Vinnie the Fire Boy, all provided eloquent testimony of the many horrible abuses perpetrated on their species by the Freddies. The Lorax also provided poetic testimony for the myriad other lifeforms inhabiting the ancient forest who could not speak for themselves.

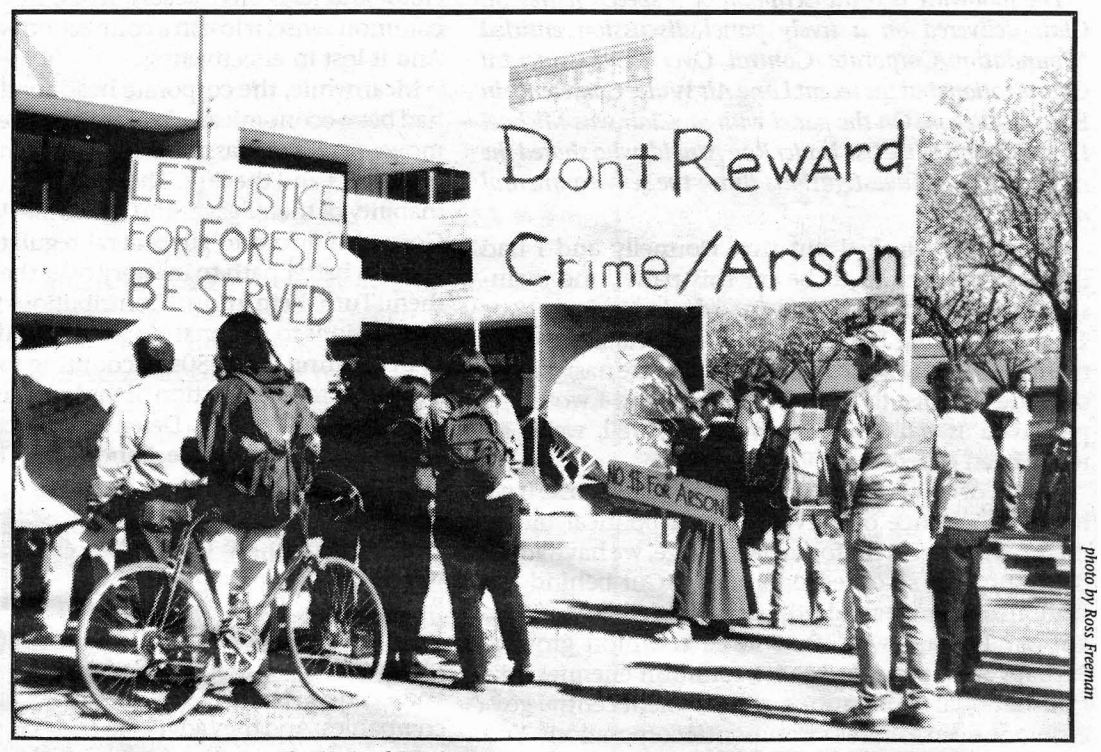


photo by Ross Freeman

The "Animal-People's Court" about to convene on the steps of the forest Supervisor's office.

The defendants were Freddies who played specific roles in the Warner Creek tragi-comedy. These fiends were literally monsters in the eyes of the critters. Playing Senator Bob Packwood was "Count Packula," the lecherous scum-sucking vampire-politician guilty of stumping for salvage along the millyard campaign trail. The Judge warned him, "It's not nice to fool around with Mother Nature!" Playing Willamette Supervisor Darrel Kenops was "FranKenops," the monstrous creation of dead forest management ideologies stitched together and brought back to life as ecosystem management. Grunting, "Fire baaaad, stumps gooood!" he was found guilty of destroying the forest in order to salvage it. Playing Forest Service Chief Jack Ward Thomas was "Dr. Jackel/Mr. Hyde Thomas," the schizo mad scientist who spoke about the ecological values of Roadless Areas until, taking a swig of a jug labeled "100 Proof Politics," he changed into a crazed timber fiend screaming, "We're going in, we're going in!" Playing the Yellow Ribbon Coalition was the "Yellow Ribbon Mummy." Wrapped in yellow ribbons and toilet paper, it would lumber about like a zombie chanting, "salvage the dead, don't let it rot!" Finally, special guest star Slugthang appeared as the nefarious arsonist, dressed like a logger with a lit torch jutting out of his hard-hat. He kept shrieking, "I like my spotted owls *fried*!" One by one the monsters raised objections to the testimony of the critters, but the wise Judge over-ruled them. Finally, the people rendered their verdict: *guilty*! *guilty*! *guilty*! Mother Nature sentenced the Freddie monsters to rot in a clearcut, and the whole skit dissolved into a wild, spirited, all-species mardi gras.

Our "symbolic" trial offered welcomed relief to reporters desperate for a break from the OJ Simpson case. All the local television crews showed up and hung out for over an hour filming the spectacle. Newspaper reporters from the state's two largest papers and the Associated Press covered the event. They wrote lurid descriptions of the skit and its cast of characters, and the story, along with color photos, was picked up by newspapers from across the country.

Coincidentally, a real trial over Oregon's new "right to die" law was being heard at the time of our demo. We explained to the media that while lawyers were arguing for the right of sick humans to die, animal-peoples were arguing for the right of so-called "dead and dying" forests to live. We ended the demo with a mass sing-along of hot tunes including the Doors' "Come On Darrel, Light My Fire" and the Talking Heads' "Burnin' Down the Woods."

photo by Ross Freeman

Orlo Bear promotes new mascot

Southern Willamette Earth First! has been enjoying a resurgence lately, and the mock trial allowed newcomers the opportunity to participate in an action that, although "symbolic," had real personal and political effects.

The next day, March 1, the Forest Service faced off against the Sierra Club and the Oregon Natural Resources Council in a real trial over the Warner salvage sales. By sheer luck or divine inspiration, the Warner salvage sales are the first timber sale to go to court under Clinton's new Option 9 logging plan. Though the Warner project offers a gruesome case study of Option 9's salvage logging loopholes, the environmentalists fully expected to be whipped in court. However, a remarkable thing occurred. Before a packed, standing-room only crowd—including lawyers from over 25 countries who were attending the Environmental Law Conference—Judge Coffin (his real name) grilled the government's attorneys for over 90 minutes on the issue of arson. The judge did not buy into the Freddies' argument that "arson is not an environmental impact," and literally rolled his eyes in disbelief at some of their lame excuses. The plaintiff's attorney from the Western Environmental Law Center put on a brilliant performance, hammering away at the flaws of the Warner EIS and the ludicrous argument that clearcutting "recovers" spotted owl habitat. The judge's head bobbed along in cadence with the arguments she laid out while the government's lawyers wilted under the barrage. Most remarkable of all, after four and a half hours of attacking the Freddies' salvage logging plan, the judge took a sudden interest in Alternative EF! This citizen-drafted proposal would make Warner Creek a Research Natural Area focusing on natural fire ecology processes. Five times the judge chanted "EF" in court, much to the delight of the EF!ers lining the walls of the gallery. Once again, regional and national newsmedia carried the story, highlighting the judge's vocal concerns that salvage logging Warner Creek would ignite future arson fires in habitat reserves.

As this article goes to press, Judge Coffin has yet to make his decision whether or not the Warner salvage sales are legal. His performance in court has made Cascadians hopeful that a good decision will come forth. The Environmental Law Conference, which started the day after the hearing, literally hummed with excitement about the Warner case. However, District Judge Michael Hogan has the authority to overrule Coffin, and Hogan has never, ever sided in favor of environmentalists. Cascadia EF!ers are getting ready for action should this unbroken history repeat itself—and you should too. The Freddies have announced that they will begin auctioning off the Warner salvage sales on May 1—or whenever the snow melts. This is chilling news to EF!ers who remember events like the Easter Sunday massacres of Millenium Grove and Breitenbush, when the Freddies made similar promises but actually ferried in loggers on snowmobiles to get the trees felled the day before scheduled court appearances to stop the logging.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

If Judge Coffin's decision goes in favor of the Forest Service, the plaintiffs have vowed to appeal the case to the Ninth Circuit, but the Freddies will be primed for a blitzkrieg-style helicopter invasion of Warner Creek. Ecowarriors from everywhere will be needed to put their bodies on the line to keep the trees standing until the appeal is heard. Start polishing your U-locks and coiling your tree-climbing ropes, and stay tuned for the next exciting episode of this salvage soap opera. But in the meantime, come hike in Warner Creek's unique park-like burned forest and experience one of the wildest places in Cascadia. Contact the Cascadia Fire Ecology Project (listed in the directory) for directions and action alerts. Remember, only YOU can prevent arson-salvage scams!

Fire Suppression and Management

The Only Forest Health Problem

BY PHIL NANAS

The "forest health problem" that we are told many of our western forests now face—which indeed is the justification for the horrible Taylor salvage rider (see page 25)—is not a "health problem" at all. It is a problem created by fire suppression and other management policies used by federal agencies on our public forests. The only way to address these "problems" is to completely overhaul these management policies and how the role of fire is perceived in forest ecosystems.

Photo by Craig Beneville

A beautiful burned snag in a healthy forest.

Fire is instrumental in creating and maintaining healthy forest structure and stand development. Fire is as important a component in western forest ecosystems as the very soil, air, and water that support their growth. Fire controls disease and pests and is the forest's natural thinning agent. Light understory burns promote soil productivity and control herbaceous weed and woody shrub competition. Fires of greater intensity control stand development and healthy forest generation. Fire is not to be feared but rather respected and perhaps utilized as a tool for preserving and maintaining the native biodiversity of our forests.

Salvage logging and "thinning" timber sales are *not* the answer. To think we can save our forest by continuing to log these already over-exploited public lands is ludicrous. Every time the federal agencies have tried a new management scheme to correct their previous management failures we end up with more failures. We simply do not know how to create and maintain forest ecosystems. This is Mother Nature's job! The best thing we can do for "forest health" is to give theses forests a long overdue rest from all extractive management. Public forests are not for private profit. We can not continue to exploit these forests and expect them to recover.

Restoration work is arguably necessary in some over-stocked stands, and rivers need restoration work if the salmon are ever to return. To think we can take more from these over-stressed systems and still provide for the future is nonsense. Commercial timber volume can not be provided without undermining the objective of restoration.

We must now pay to restore these fragile places. Where will the money come from? To start, we should end the fire-suppression program. Many fire suppression efforts consume a million dollars a day, to fight fires using practices that do not work. History reveals that fires in which over a million dollars spent to suppress were all eventually put out by changes in the weather—the rain and snow, not man and machine.

Over the last ten years more than 500 million dollars was spent on average annually to "control" fires in the western states. This past year over 900 million dollars were spent. We can expect this number to grow as drought continues and arson becomes more prevalent, and rewarded with timber sale contracts. The enormous amount of suppression monies and the 500 million tax dollars wasted annually on below-cost timber sales would be better spent on restoration work. This would provide local workers with employment and could be administered much like the post-depression Civilian Conservation Corps. Once we have spent money fixing what we have destroyed, we will begin to assess the value of what we are destroying.

The public fear of fire and suppression efforts promoted by the managing agencies, including the "Smokey the Bear" campaign, should be terminated. A new campaign must begin to educate the public on the benefits of wildfire and ways to avoid loss of life and property by redirecting settlement patterns with new zoning and insurance regulations. It is the human and urban interface that needs adjusting, not our public forests.

Phil Nanas is on the Native Forest Council staff and is a member of the Many Rivers Group chapter of the Sierra Club.

Pacific Lumber Plans Revenge...

Continued from front page

Bechtle said that surveys were not conducted by an independent third party, but by surveyors, "who, to a considerable extent, were PL employees, all of whom were under direct supervision of PL's top and middle management." Surveyors were also sent to areas where the likelihood of detecting murrelets was reduced by noise and weather.

During the trial PL's Resource Manager conceded that he had hosted a party for PL forestry staff and murrelet surveyors featuring a dartboard with a picture of a marbled murrelet as the target. The judge also stated that two surveyors who saw murrelets were pressured by supervisors to change their findings. Other murrelet survey forms were "lost" or changed before being forwarded to the state. Bechtle stated that PL's expert witnesses were paid consultants who "lacked credibility and objectivity."

Pacific Lumber's notice of exemption on the heels of such an outstanding ruling is testimony to their utter disregard for environmental law and agency review. Ecotopia Earth First! protested the exemption process at CDF's office in Fortuna and Santa Rosa and EPIC demanded enforcement action from the agencies against PL's Exemption, citing the Owl Creek ruling as evidence of PL's deliberate misconduct.

The California Department of Forestry accepted the exemption under the conditions that: 1) PL file a ten-day notification before logging operations commence; and 2) consult with the agencies to determine which trees can be cut without affecting murrelet nest sites. Considering that throughout California, surveyors have discovered only nine murrelet nests, this restriction is wholly inadequate to protect the murrelet. The CDF also states that PL cannot log murrelet occupied areas during their nesting season (April through October).

The failure of the regulatory agencies to enforce the ESA was well documented in the Owl Creek ruling. The Department of Forestry and the Department of Fish and Game have been blatantly remiss in fulfilling their duties in overseeing PL's logging practices. They have failed to enforce the laws that are essential to the protection of old growth forests and dependent species.

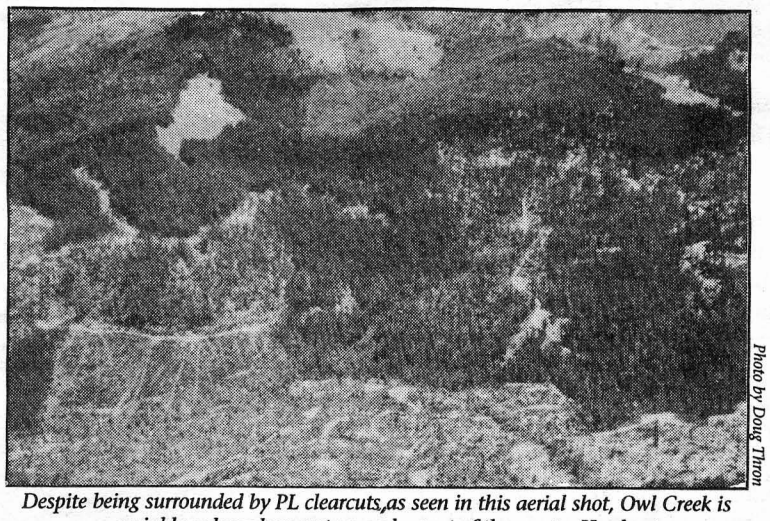


Photo by Doug Thron

Despite being surrounded by PL clearcuts, as seen in this aerial shot, Owl Creek is a viable redwood ecosystem and a part of the greater Headwaters area.

EPIC once again must legally intervene because the agencies aren't doing their jobs. PL is currently logging residual old-growth in the greater Headwaters area under a 179,000 acre exemption. EPIC has already filed suit on this exemption and is trying to amend that legal complaint to include the 6,000 acre exemption which includes the Headwaters Grove. If PL steps foot in the Headwaters Grove—which could happen anytime—EPIC will move for a Temporary Restraining Order and Earth First! will stand up to the chainsaws.

The Proposed Headwaters Swap

Pacific Lumber was acquired in 1986 through a hostile takeover by the Houston-based Maxxam corporation. Maxxam head Charles Hurwitz already owes the tax payers $1.6 billion for the bailout of his failed Saving and Loan in Texas (USAT). Earth First! and other forest activists are advocating a debt for nature swap for the Headwaters Forest and surrounding areas in exchange for Hurwitz's $1.6 billion debt.

If the "takings" bill now before Congress passes, Hurwitz stands to be reimbursed for the money that he "lost" by not being able to log in Headwaters. And now California Governor Wilson is putting forth a proposal that would allow Hurwitz to ultimately profit from a swap. Hurwitz is a corporate criminal. Mitigation is not appropriate. Neither is a back room deal with the State's governor. What would be appropriate is criminal charges.

To those who have witnessed the desecration suffered at the hands of Pacific Lumber's renegade logging practices, there is a grim irony in the idea of deregulating an already unchecked timber corporation. The Republican push towards further deregulation of corporations that already exploit outrageous privileges is a grave threat. These actions, combined with the proposed gutting of the ESA, would be a devastating setback for the protection of the last wild places.

What you can do: Ask Chairwoman of the FDIC, Ricki Tigert, to recoup the full dollar amount for Hurwitz's failed USAT and to refer the case to Janet Reno and the Justice Department for criminal prosecution. The message is clear: $1.6 billion—Ricki don't lose that number! Ricki Tigert, FDIC, 550 17th Street NW, Washington DC 20249

Come hike Headwaters Forest, put your body in front of the machines. Call Randy immediately at (707) 839-5847 to get on an action alert phone list or for more information. And remember three keers for the marbled murrelett!

Earth First!ers in ACTION

Bruce Babbitt Tries to Avoid Protesters By Attempting to Run Them Down

BY UDO WALD

Confused? Well, that also describes our Secretary of the Interior's approach to enforcing the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

On February 24, 1995, Babbling Bruce rolled into San Diego's East County to attend a $150 a plate schmoozefest with local Republican politicians, developers, polluters and compromising eco-yuppies. The dinner, celebrating the grand opening of the Mission Trails Park Visitors Center, was another opportunity for the Secretary to sell his Natural Communities Conservation Plan (NCCP).

As the invitation informs us, "5,280 acres of mountains, valleys, lakes and, of course, TRAILS!" makes Mission Trails the "largest urban park in the country." There is no mention of a single species, such as the endangered California gnatcatcher, least bell's vireo, San Diego horned lizard, southwestern willow flycatcher, coastal barrel cactus, San Diego ambrosia and thornmint; all of which make their home here and will have to put up with the hikers, bikers, rock climbers and equestrians. A series of backroom deals have also dissected the park with a new expressway and other road extensions. The Visitor Center's landscaping is enhanced by simulated rock formations like those found at Disneyland or the San Diego Zoo. As you approach the center from the parking lot you are surrounded by LIVE recordings of local birdcalls. Virtual Reality!

Well, $150 was a bit plush for us, and the guest list was a bit tawdry. But activists from Baja Ecotopia EF!, Orange County EF! and Alluvial EF! showed up anyway and occupied the main entry. We greeted VIP's and Mr. Babbitt with a polite request for his resignation. Party goers who wondered why we wanted him to resign since, "He is one of you," were informed that actually, "He is one of them." We also told them that the NCCP is nothing but a shell game without a pea and that the only viable tool for preserving the web of life is enforcing and strengthening the ESA.

The evening wore on, and the cops would not let us in. We chanted and Bruce prattled. As he was leaving we tried to ask him again, politely, to resign, but his Official Town Car sped up, bore down on the demonstrators in the street and barely missed us. Ole!

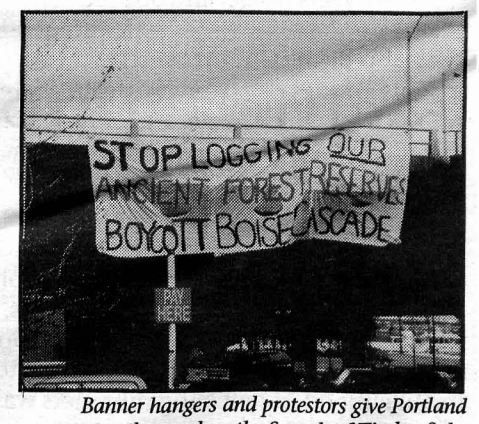
Southern Californian Earth First!ers greet Bruce Babbitt on the freeway to San Diego. His response was to try and run them down with his Town Car.

Boise Cascade Arrests Mother with Child

BY IVAN MALUSKI, BLUE HERON (FORMERLY REED) EARTH FIRST!

On Friday, February 17, about 60 people gathered in Portland for a rally and march to protest the Sugarloaf Timber Sale at the white paper division of Boise Cascade located in downtown Portland. The event was designed to educate the public about Boise Cascade's plan to log ancient trees within a "Late Successional Reserve" and "Key Watershed", as designated by Option 9, the Clinton Forest Plan (see Litha '94 issue of the *Journal* for details).

After a brief rally, we marched towards the Boise Cascade office and hung a banner over Front Avenue. When we arrived at the office, the police asked us if we wanted to send two representatives inside to talk to a Boise mouthpiece, so we did. They also asked if we were planning to remove the banner or if we wanted them to get it down. The officer pointed out that we could use it again for another demo if we wanted to take it home. How thoughtful! We assured him that we would get it down before the day was through.



Banner hangers and protestors give Portland the word on the Sugarloaf Timber Sale.

One protestor, Lydia Avery, was arrested while trying to bring one of the two reps, Karen Wood, her fussing daughter Sarah. Lydia's two sons were with her, too. The police wouldn't even let her nine-year old son bring the toddler into the building. Maybe they thought it was a kamikaze mission or something? Lydia's only crime, it appears, was to question the authorities' authority and to demand answers. She was taken away in handcuffs without a struggle (the charges were later dropped). Boise Cascade: We'll be back and next time we'll all bring our moms!

The Carolling Spirits of First Ladies Past Pay a Visit to Lewiston

BY FAITH

Photo by all of us using the timer

Wild Wimmin singing to the town of Lewiston, ID.

The first annual Wild Warrior Wimminz Winter Wendezvous got off to a roaring start one February Friday eve in a northern Idaho cabin. Ten women and one mancub gathered for a weekend of whirling our whiskers, whetting our witticism, waltzing in wimminly wisdom, welding souls, warbling songs, weaving our stories, wallowing in wonder under welkin, wassailing the season, and plucking whortleberries in these woods. And we brought on floods! A *deluge*. A *mud world*.

Wimmin may or may not have: dangled from a rafter clad only in a black cape while singing a John Denver favorite; slung mud at grinning faces and white skin; roasted tofu weenies around a rainy campfire; followed raccoon prints in snow; drummed as the moon flashed behind racing clouds; jumped in the creek; leapt naked and laughed a thousand times in the valley; shared birthdays, sorrows, chicken feathers; and invoked the spirits of First Ladies past.

On Presidents Day, driven by the anguish of our newfound connections, Eleanor Roosevelt, Mary Todd Lincoln, Rosalyn Carter, Martha Washington, Barbara Nixon, Hillary Clinton, Mrs. Cleveland, and Madonna carolled in Lewiston's city center to spread awareness of the continuing abuse of America's remaining forests.

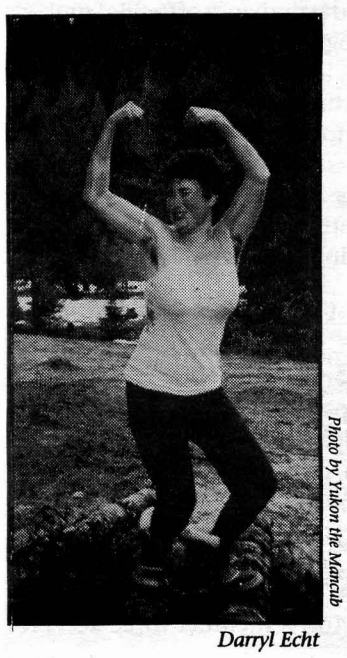


Photo by Yukon the Mancub

Darryl Echt

Fifty local residents were arrested in January protesting the senseless leveling of ten acres of forest near Olympia, WA. People ran amuck, climbed trees and blocked logging for several weeks. The actions brought the following editorial response from one local yahoo: "Damn it, do you realize how foolish you looked on TV? At least 500,000 people saw Greeners [a reference to Evergreen students] acting like fools. What were you thinking? Do you actually think that when you hang in the trees you are actually doing something productive?" Two acres of the forest were eventually protected and hundreds of folks became tuned into a larger struggle and picture of destruction and hope in wildness.

Chinquapin Resistance

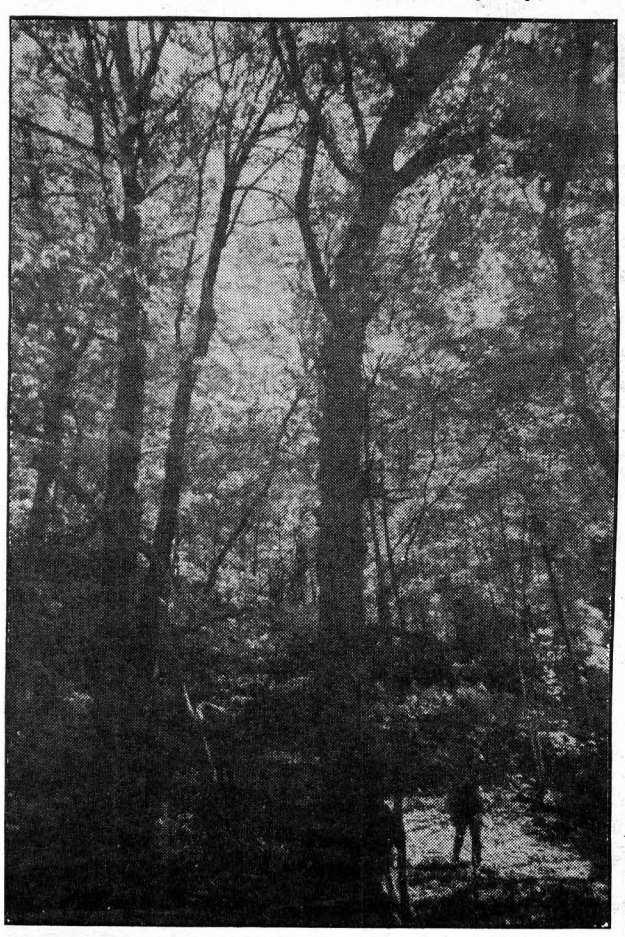
Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park, located in St. Louis County, Missouri, is a magnificent area of over 1,000 acres containing a great diversity of trees, plants, and wildlife, as well as hiking and picnicking areas and a gorgeous lake. Unfortunately, the Highway Department proposes to widen the now 4-lane Page Avenue to 10 lanes and extend it through the quietest, most remote part of the park (and the county). The highway will go through rare old growth forest, as well as over wetlands and Creve Coeur Lake, which historically was the largest natural lake in Missouri.

The Missouri Native Plant Society of St. Louis recently discovered a rare gem for the lower Missouri Valley: over 25 acres of old growth forest lie along the limestone bluffs of Creve Coeur Lake. This 25-acre strip of forested land has never been logged, probably due to the steepness and inaccessibility of this area, as well as its historical use for recreation. The logging that ravaged the rest of the state a hundred years ago has left Missouri with only 7,900 acres of old growth forest today (.05 percent of Missouri's existing forest).

The old growth in the park consists mostly of oak—white, red, and chinquapin (pronounced "*chink*-a-pin")—as well as maple, ash and hickory. A survey of the area by the Native Plant Society revealed the age of one chinquapin oak (27 inches in diameter) to be 366 years old, which predates the founding of St. Louis. Of the other 40 trees cored, two white oaks were of 231 and 241 years of age, and one red oak dates back to 1677. A threatened butternut tree was also documented.

This forest has no stumps, the trees are uneven aged, fallen trees are in decay, and diverse plant life thrives. The survey revealed 250 different plant species in the park. The park is also home to beaver, bobcat, blue heron, bald eagle and pileated woodpecker.

According to the US Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, the Highway Department must replace park land it destroys with land of "equivalent usefulness." However, none of the eight proposed expansion plans include significant or comparable forest and wetlands to replace those which the highway will pave over (as if you could replace old growth anyway). The "replacement" lands consist of poor quality agricultural fields, ex-quarry, or young trees which would eventually be bulldozed by the planned "Earth City Expressway-Highway 141 connection." The proposed "wetlands," intended as substitutes for natural wetlands eliminated by the 150-foot tall Page Ave. bridge, are a topographers nightmare and will be little more than mudholes.



Throughout this process, government officials are refusing to pursue options to accommodate the ever-increasing traffic (much less try to curb it) such as expanding interstate 70 or Olive Blvd., or extending the existing light rail further west to St. Charles. Why is St. Louis lagging so far behind other major cities in mass transit? The hidden agenda behind the Page Ave. extension is the development of the Missouri floodplain for the benefit and profit of developers, bankers, and investors who will cover the beauty of these forests and plains with McDonald's and parking lots. I know Americans have short memories but the flood of '93 was not that long ago.

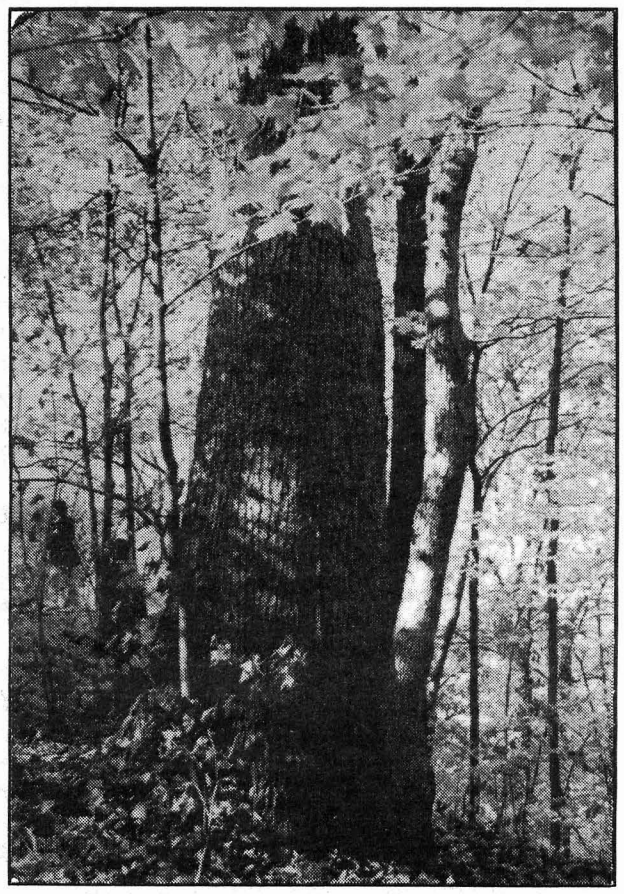
It is both alarming and unsurprising to find out that Creve Coeur woods were not recognized as rare old growth forest by any of the county, state or federal agencies who surveyed the area as part of the road project's environmental impact statement (EIS). In the entire 4-volume EIS only one sentence mentions the woods, describing them as "high quality upland woods." It then simply states that *part of* the woods would be lost to Page Ave. (How does one lose *part of* only 25 acres?) Quite an oversight considering that the forest is far and away the rarest natural environment that would be impacted by Page Ave.

What really was surprising was the way that Missouri's elected officials circumvented a law, section 4(f) of the US Department of Transportation Act of 1966, which prohibits a federally-funded highway from going through any public park "unless there is no feasible or prudent alternative." During the EIS scoping process numerous citizens, organizations, and government agencies concluded that there were feasible and prudent alternatives. Nevertheless, this prohibition was stricken by section 601 of the US Pipeline Safety Act of 1992 (a totally unrelated bill), which does not repeal section 4(f) but rather authorizes the US to violate their own statute solely for the extension of Page Ave. The *St. Louis Post Dispatch* quoted Senator John Danforth boasting that, "without the change in the law, the park route would have been doomed. So what we had to do was change the statute for this purpose. It's very specific." The Page Ave. extension is clearly an issue of business controlling our elected officials which results in the same kind of short-sighted development that plagues the entire country.

Chinquapin Resistance is a group of people that take the name of the slowest growing type of oak tree. We share ideas and a philosophy to act in resistance to the extension of Page Avenue. We urge you to get involved in the fight to preserve Creve Coeur Park in the hope that this significant ancient forest in St. Louis County will be saved, along with the integrity of the park. We encourage you to write letters to the government officials below, to visit the park, and to get directly involved with Chinquapin Resistance in the struggle to save Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park. Contact us at Chinquapin Resistance, 720 Interdrive #1S, St. Louis, MO 63130, (314) 725-6299.

Please write the following people involved with the decision making process concerning Creve Coeur Lake Memorial Park:

- George R. "Buzz" Westfall, St. Louis County Executive, 41 S. Central, Clayton, MO 63105
- James Talent, House of Representatives, Missouri District 2, Washington, DC 20215
- Mel Carnahan, Governor of Missouri, Room 216, Jefferson City, MO 65105
- Bruce Babbitt, Secretary of the Interior, C & 19th Streets, NW, Washington, DC 20240



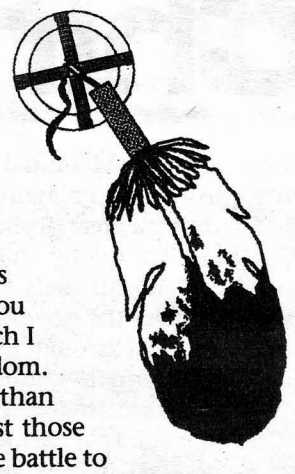
Great Western Road Giveaway

The November elections have given new power to those who want to use a 129-year-old law to open national parks and public lands to new and expanded roadbuilding. Revised Statute 2477 (RS2477) was passed in 1866 and repealed in 1976. However, rights-of-way that had already been properly established were not terminated. The statute granted a right for the construction of highways on unreserved public lands. Some states and counties are now claiming not only legitimate highways but thousands of miles of jeep trails as public highways under RS2477. There are also thousands of claims under RS2477 for footpaths and (in Alaska) historic dogsled trails as public highways. The states and counties claim a right to upgrade these tracks and trails to paved highways.

Last year the Interior Department published proposed rules that would have established strict definitions of "construction" and "public highway" and eliminated spurious claims for jeep trails, footpaths, and dogsled trails. The rules also asserted full federal authority to regulate use of any legitimate claims. In the aftermath of the November elections, Secretary Babbitt has twice extended the comment period on the proposed rules. The new deadline is August 1. An attack on the regulations is expected in the new Congress—probably in the appropriations process. For more information and future alerts, please send your name and address to the National Parks and Conservation Association, PO Box 1563, Salt Lake City, UT 84110, (801) 532-4796.

"Spread Your Love Through Action"

An Open Letter From Rod Coronado



On March 3, 1995, I pled guilty to aiding and abetting a fire at Michigan State University (MSU) that destroyed 32 years of research intended to benefit the fur farm industry. The Animal Liberation Front (ALF) claimed responsibility for the raid, the seventh in a series of actions dubbed "Operation Bite Back" which targeted fur farms and universities engaged in taxpayer supported research jointly funded by the fur trade. I also pled guilty to one count of theft of US Government property; in particular, a journal belonging to a 7th Cavalry Officer killed at the Little Bighorn near Crow Agency, Montana in 1876. This negotiated plea agreement is the result of a seven year investigation by the FBI into my activities, and the federal government's continued targeting of indigenous activists who assert their sovereignty and continue their fight for cultural survival. It is also the culmination of nine federal grand juries that have lasted over three years, subpoenaed over sixty political activists, jailed four for six months each, and harassed and intimidated countless others in the hunt for members of the ALF.

In return for the guilty pleas, the US Government promises not to seek further prosecution of me in the remaining districts investigating the ALF, nor subpoena me to testify against others suspected of ALF activity. The price I pay for not testifying against my compatriots is a three to four year prison sentence.

Prior to the plea agreement, I was the sole defendant in a seven count indictment alleging that I was responsible for a nationwide coordinated effort to cripple fur farm research and development. With a lifetime commitment to protect the earth behind me and in front of me, I must choose carefully the battles in which I fight, and the arenas in which I fight them. Like most indigenous people, I am unable to match the limitless resources of the US Government in their efforts to incarcerate me, nor am I able to adequately defend myself amidst laws that criminalize the preservation of our sacred earth mother.

This is only the latest attempt by the US Government to make an example of those who break free from the confines of legitimate protest. At a time when ecological and cultural destruction is commonplace and within the perimeter of the law, it sometimes becomes necessary to adhere to the higher laws of nature and morality rather than stand mute witness to the destruction of our lands and people. I believe it to be the obligation of the earth warrior to never be ashamed of one's own actions to honor the sacred tradition of indigenous resistance. Therefore, I accept full responsibility for my actions and remain grateful to have had the honor of serving as a member of the ALF as their spokesperson and supporter.

With a record of over 300 animal liberation actions and rescues in the US without injury or loss of life, yet thousands of lives spared from the horrors of vivisection and fur farming, the women and men of the ALF remain to me some of the most respected of nonviolent warriors in the struggle to save our planet. My role in the raid at MSU was as a non-participant, acting as a conduit for the truth hidden behind the locked laboratory door. While in Ann Arbor, Michigan, awaiting instructions, I received a phone call from an anonymous ALF member detailing the raid for inclusion into a press release. Later, I received research materials and evidence seized during the raid. These documents would have exposed taxpayer sponsored research benefiting the fur farm industry, and experiments where mink and otters are force-fed toxins and other contaminants until they convulse and bleed to death. Accompanying these documents was a videotape of the cramped and unsanitary conditions mink and otter endure at MSU's research laboratories. My desire to release this information to the public was much greater than my desire to protect myself from rabid investigations by the FBI and the ATF. Seventeen months later, I was indicted by the Michigan grand jury based on this evidence.

Earlier in the month of February, 1992 I was at the Little Bighorn River in Montana. I went to the sight of the infamous battle and was shocked at this, the only monument I know of that glorifies the loser. In further disgrace to the warriors who lost their lives defending their families and homelands, the monument paints a one-sided story of the conquest of the indigenous peoples of the Great Plains by the US military. The truth remains that George Armstrong Custer and his 7th Cavalry were an illegal occupational force trespassing in clear violation of the Fort Laramie Treaty of 1868 to attack peaceful encampments of noncombatants in the heart of the Lakota Nation. The theft of the Cavalryman's journal is a reminder of indigenous discontent with the treatment of our heritage and culture by the US Government.

Over the last ten years I have placed myself between the hunter and the hunted, the vivisector and the victim, the furrier and the furbearer, and the whaler and the whale. These are my people, my constituency. It is to them that I owe my life. I have chosen to continue the time honored tradition of resistance to the invading forces that are ravaging our homes and people. Many people have been tortured, murdered and imprisoned on this warrior's path, yet we must continue to stand tall against the tyranny that has befallen this continent in the last 503 years. As warriors we must accept that prison awaits those who are unwilling to compromise the earth and her people

> "The price I pay for not testifying against my conpatriots is a three to four year sentence."

when we choose to remain allegiant to fellow warriors whose identity remains unknown. We are all Subcommandante Marcos, Crazy Horse and the ALF. Never, ever, should we forget that in order to achieve the peace and liberation we strive for some sacrifice is necessary. This will not be the first time an indigenous person has gone to prison while upholding the obligation to protect our culture, homelands and people, and it most definitely will not be the last. It is with total love that I say good-bye to my earth mother for a little while to enter the concrete and steel prisons the US Government reserves for its discontent citizens. Such rewards await those who must give their lives and freedom to prevent the destruction of the most beautiful planet in the universe, our life-support system, our beloved mother earth.

To those who have fought beside me, you will always be my friends and families, and for you I will give up that which I love the most, my freedom. I will face prison rather than speak one word against those on the frontlines of the battle to protect earth. Our relationship is a sacred one, and in your own freedom I pray that you spread your love through action that continues to rescue all that remains wild. Never surrender!

Though we may never see each other again in the trenches of the struggle for animal and earth liberation through illegal direct action, in my heart I will always hold you closest. Be patient my friends. I have not forgotten those already behind bars, those in the traps and in the rifle sights of man's ignorance and greed. It is time for me to hand over my role as a "hero" to the animal and environmental movement to others whose faces are not yet known.

To you I give the responsibility to preserve and protect what is left of the splintered nations of others we call animals. In your hands lie the future of this centuries-old struggle, in yourselves you must find heroes. Now you must take the risks rather than cheer on those who have walked before you. Carry her spirit well, and shower yourselves in her beauty when in need of true power. I have been brought back home to my people, the Yaqui Nation and it is to them that I now return to satisfy the restless spirits of my great grandmothers whose cries I must answer.

Sometimes we are forced to do things we do not like when we are warriors. On this land that I now live, where my ancestors are buried, the great warrior Geronimo sometimes found it necessary to surrender to the enemy in order to recruit young warriors for future battles. We are a patient people. Never forget the beauty, magic, love and life we all fight so hard to protect and that others have given so much to defend. Our pain and sadness is very real but so is our happiness and joy as we witness the coming Spring. I will always be beside you, and you may always find shelter in my home. I love you all, and in you I place the hopes for a rebirth and a rekindling of our sacred relations to all animal people and creation. Forever in Your Honor and In Her Service,

—Rod Coronado-Wiiko Yau ura,
Pascua Yaqui Tribe

Innu Defenders Imprisoned

In June 1994 fifteen native people of the Innu nation, including children and seniors blocked the access road leading to the SM-3 building site on Quebec's North shore (refer to *EF! Journal*, Samhain, 1994 or for a current update turn to page 13 this issue). The Innu, members of the coalition for Nitassinan, erected a peace camp to protest their right to self-determination and their traditional, cultural and linguistic way of life.

A provisional injunction was issued on June 7, 1994 obliging the Innus to dismantle the barricades on their own territory. The Innu refused to leave the site, defying the injunction in the name of their ancestral rights and their sovereignty. The Innu have never given up their traditional home, or anything else, by treaty or otherwise.

The injuries to the Innu people's fundamental rights are a crime. All the non-native participants have also received severe penalties, including a $1,000 fine. Two of them intend not to respect this judgment and are ready to be imprisoned for three months at the Bordeaux Prison in Montreal to protest against the Quebec government's irresponsible energy policy.

In a statement to the press on February 20, protestor Chris Issak Lardner stated:

"The Innu have made their voices of opposition heard courageously, patiently, with determination and without compromise. I take their courage as an example. It is time that everyone of us take on responsibility for the society of which we are part. The instinct to protect the environment upon which we and future generations depend is a natural instinct fundamental to the continuation of life.

"The physical constraints of a prison cell are preferable to the individual frustration and collective impoverishment that result from repression of our vital instincts."

The two prisoners, Chris Issak Lardner and Colin Donahue can be written to at Bordeaux Prison, 800 Goin Blvd. West, Montreal, PQ H31-1K1.

—Coalition pour Nitissinan, Mani-Utenam

EF! BEATS UP ON JIM BOB MOFFETT ...

BY CEDAR

Among the goals and tactics for the coming year deliberated upon at the '95 Activist Conference were: focusing on multinational corporations, coalition-building with student groups, supporting campaigns of indigenous and oppressed peoples, and remaining committed to biodiversity. If you rolled all these into one action, you'd be hard pressed to do better than a slam of Freeport McMoRan and its chairman of the board, James Robert "Jim Bob" Moffett.

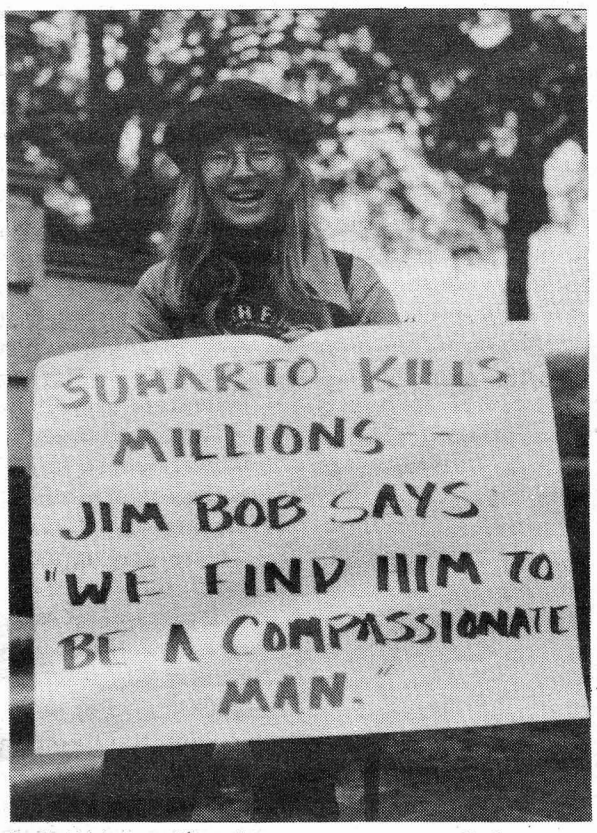


Photo by Alicia Littleree

Cedar, in one of her calmer moments, expresses displeasure over Jim Bob's choice of friends.

Corporate Profiteering

At home and abroad, Freeport is known as a major water polluter, and is the number one water polluter in the US, mostly due to its dumping of radioactive phosphogypsum from its corporate headquarters in New Orleans into the Mississippi River. In West Papua (known as "Irian Jaya" by the brutal and imperialist regime we call "Indonesia"), Freeport operates the world's largest gold mine as well as a copper mine. They dump whatever does not glitter into the river poisoning the water used by the native people. By colluding with the genocidal dictator of Indonesia, Suharto, and by stealing the land for its mineral prospects, Freeport has driven the Amungme people into poverty.

(BOYCOTT GOLD!)

In Austin, Barton Creek Properties, a wholly owned Freeport subsidiary, is polluting Barton Creek and Barton Springs with sewage effluent used to fertilize two existing golf courses. Proposed development on more than 4,000 acres along Barton Creek further threatens the watershed and the Barton Springs salamander. Under pressure from developers, Secretary of Interior Bruce Babbitt delayed the listing of the salamander by six months. The habitat of the federally-listed endangered golden-cheeked warbler is also threatened.

Student environmental activists are particularly steamed about the University of Texas' (UT) unseemly relationship with Freeport. Chancellor of UT Systems, Bill Cunningham, receives over $30,000 annually for his moonlighting job on Freeport's Board of Directors. Jim Bob often donates generously to UT, his *alma mater*, especially to the geology department. In return, the department has been sending students to West Papua to do mineral prospecting for the sole benefit of Freeport. Lately, Jim Bob has been giving money for construction of a new biotechnology building. The UT Board of Regents has decided to name the building after—you guessed it—James R. Moffett.

Austin (rhymes with) Action

Like a swarm of angry bees, EF! and student activists tore through the UT campus the day after the Activist Conference. After an educational rally sponsored by students, EF! took center stage, smashing TV sets in protest of Freeport's onslaught of dis-infomercials, and beating an effigy of Jim Bob with a golf club. The lively mob then took off on a rowdy tour of campus. Campus coppers tried in vain to prevent the proliferation of chalked slogans denouncing UT and Freeport on university buildings and walkways.

The main attraction on the tour was a stop at the Geology building, where the demonstrators filled the hallways and stairwells, howling and beating metal noisemakers. At the offices of Associate Professor Mark Clos, who sends grad students to find gold for Freeport, the crowd demanded an audience. Clos declined.

Then the swarm buzzed over to the freshly bulldozed site of the future Jim Bob building. As people began discreetly pulling up the posts of the chain link fence, two UT alumni burned their diplomas to protest the name of the building-to-be. At this point, police nabbed one protester for—gasp!—chalking on a building. In retaliation, the swarm decided to go back and sting the Geology building again. More noise and chalk and horrified professors. At last, voices hoarse, passion satiated, we felt we had caused enough trouble for one afternoon. One bearded bard led us in the customary Earth First! anthem, then off we went for celebratory libations, and yes, another demonstration. This time, we went to the Mexican consulate to protest the troops in Chiapas intent on crushing the Zapatistas (See article on page 18).

Fallout

Student Earth defenders are now working much more closely with non-student EF!ers. Our focus on human rights abuses in West Papua and our work with the local *Chiapas Solidarite Comite* is helping to form the natural link between EF! and indigenous struggles. These folks and other groups are now working together, attending each other's events, and putting together a community activist center. All these connections were much needed and will enhance the efforts of all local activists who work to bring down the multinational corporations and armies that threaten the Earth, her creatures and peoples.

THEN SHUTS FREEPORT'S PLANS DOWN!!!

BY NEAL TUTTRUP

High in the hills at the Katúah RRR: "Hey, sumbudy at one of the campfires asked if Austin would host the Activist Conference. What d'ya think?"

"Sure why not?"

It's that kind of calm, thorough decision making that has enabled Austin Earth First! to prosper through this age of gloom. But even if we just made a snap decision, we probably would have come to the same conclusion. Why? Because we're suckers. Promise us long hours, long odds and few rewards and we're yours. Actually, the few rewards part is a lie. Having y'all visit was one of the best times any of us have had here in the heart of Texas.

And we're as happy as we can get to announce that the multinational corporation Freeport MacMoRan took a licking in Austin mere days after the conference. As we were having our conference, Austin city officials were having a conference of their own with Freeport officials. In fact, it turns out that the city had been meeting in secret for at least 45 days. These negotiations concerned Freeport's plan to develop over 4,000 acres of sensitive watersheds that are home to several endangered species. The result of these negotiations, which were announced just as the last conference attendees were leaving Austin, was a several hundred page "agreement" that granted Freeport the approval for the development and services they have sought for years. The city and Freeport said they had the right to negotiate in secret since the agreement was actually a settlement of a lawsuit Freeport has filed against the city for "violating" their "property rights." Never mind the fact that the lawsuit concerned covered only 25 acres of the 4,000+ that the agreement addressed. The city also said we would have to wait four days to have access to the massive agreement document, and that we would then only have two days to analyze it before it was voted on by the city council.

Why the rush? Sick, paranoid individuals claimed it was designed to thwart an attempt by Austin citizens to intervene in the lawsuit. We would have our day in court the day after the council vote.

The citizens of Austin were so pissed off by the behind the scenes negotiations that 1,000 of us (no kidding) showed up at the city council meeting and convinced 4 of the 7 council members to reject the deal.

We are convinced that the energy the conference attendees contributed to our community and its struggle against Freeport MacMoRan was critical to our success.

Thankyouthankyouthankyou!

1995 EF! Activities Confluence

BY JIM FLYNN

The 1995 EF! Activist Conference hosted by Austin EF! was the foot-stomping good time everyone expected. What came out of the conference wasn't expected: We got a lot of work done. The results are some new directions for the movement and a revitalized EF!

The site was a small organic farm complete with an outdoor kitchen, guinea hens, outhouses and friendly locals. The farm lay along a large, clear spring-fed creek. The abundant opportunities for recreation included: hiking, swimming, singing, socializing and home brew swillin' (Ah tel yoo whut!) The possibility that any work would get done looked hopeless.

On the first day of meetings we started with the ever-unpopular, but necessary, agenda-making and security-vouching, which always takes too long. The mood and the meetings appeared an all-too-familiar surly. But by the end of the conference, we were cranking through the topics with a stop watch and a smile.

How could this be? Agreement among activists? Cohesion at a conference? Productivity at a party? Unheard of.

Well, it is hard to express mood on paper, but suffice to say there was a feeling of unity in the face of impending doom. That sort of thing tends to pull people together. Most people came to work and focused on it until it was time to party and party we did!

Here are some of the major themes discussed:

MOVEMENT DIRECTIONS

- Expose mainstream environmental corporations and other multinationals.
- Form coalitions with other groups and individuals *without* compromising our message or our actions; i.e., join and subvert the Sierra Club, link up with other groups' actions, work in solidarity with oppressed people.
- Return to our (grass)roots. Work on local issues within communities.
- Organize/nurture more organizers.
- Focus on USFWS and their role in weakening the ESA.
- Bring in new music to the movement; EF! music has to be more than folksy white guys w/guitars if we want to reach the public, especially young people.
- Open a harassment info clearing house.

REVITALIZATION

- Spread the word about deep ecology and biocentrism by spreading the *Journal*; i.e., reading the *Journal* in public, tabling, getting it into book stores, libraries and schools, and sub boosting.
- Produce a new EF! Primer. *(Send submissions to the Journal office before May)*
- Wear EF! T-shirts and merchandise in public with pride.
- Call ourselves EF! in our activism, instead of "trying to look legitimate" by changing our name to something like the "Native Forest Biodiversity Project."
- Do basic movement PR—getting the message to the media and the people.
- Train and encourage new activists.

IMPRESSIONS/FEELINGS

- Focus some time on self to keep strong and mentally healthy.
- Use criticism to strengthen, not bash.
- Feed ourselves (mentally, physically, metaphysically, etc.).
- Continually have more fun than others do and people will join us.

State of the Movement Undressed

The Taming of the Corporate Greens

BY JUSTIN TIME AND THE MYSTERY RIDERS WORKSHOP

Recently, this paragraph from a December 19, 1994 *Nation* article by Alexander Cockburn and Jeffrey St. Clair was reprinted on the *Wall Street Journal's* front page:

The "Wise Use" movement, led by former Sierra Clubber Ron Arnold (and staked, like the big greens, by oil companies), has been able to score many hits and rally populist opposition to environmentalism precisely because many of the charges ring true. The mainstream brass is elitist, highly paid, detached from the people, indifferent to the working class and a firm ally of big government.

EF! Journal readers are familiar with the sentiments expressed by Cockburn and St. Clair. It's nothing new. Now both Arnold's front group, the Center for the Defense of Free Enterprise (CDFE) and The Wilderness Society (TWS) have published new reports that play directly on our abilities to save the surviving threatened ecosystems. Here's how they see it:

Virtual History

The Wilderness Society just published a primer for stump monitors. Called a *Citizen's Guide to the Northwest Forest Plan*, its first chapter is entitled a "Brief History of the Ancient Forest Controversy." It begins with the citation that "some wildlife biologists in the early 1970's expressed concerns about loss of old-growth habitat for the northern spotted owl and other species." It then jumps on to mention how "the federal timber sale program began to fall apart in 1988 and 1989 as the result of three successful lawsuits." A quick mention is made of Section 318 (the Hatfield Rider from Hell) which mandated the cutting of 130,000 acres of prime national forest. (At the time of Section 318, then TWS head—and current Babbitt underling—George Frampton called it a "compromise victory.")

The history then leaps forward to the 1990's and spends four of its six pages on the era of the policy wonk's dream—hearings, science teams, congressional impasse, the Forest Conference, FEMAT and (co)-Option 9.

What Really Happened

The sanitized TWS history conveniently leaves out RARE II, the national groups' compromise on roadless areas. The Carter-era RARE II (to which the nationals acquiesced) proposed that the line between (big-W) designated Wilderness and "released" de facto wilderness be forever set. This would have, if carried out, rendered the ancient forest issue moot long ago, as the "released" areas (read: native forest habitat) are the very same areas we have been fighting for ever since.

However, brave souls refused to go along with the mainstream greens and opposed the sell-out. Doug Norlen and other activists literally stood their ground at the Bald Mountain Road site and were partially buried by a bulldozer. The attempts to build a resistance to the Gaston-Orleans (G-O) Road in Northern California and the Bald Mountain Road in the Siskiyous were the real birthplaces of the modern forest movement. For any forest history to ignore these events is like saying Ghandi's "illegal" salt manufacture or the Montgomery Bus Boycott never happened.

Activists from all over came to blockade the roads and, despite pressure from the nationals, the Oregon Natural Resources Council (ONRC) and Earth First! filed the RARE II lawsuit and the issue was engaged. The nationals? They sent out threatening letters to their members who had the audacity to support the actions and lawsuit.

The Wilderness Society misses virtually all the other critical junctures in its Orwellian history as well. There is no mention of the early 1987 petition for listing of the spotted owl filed by Green World and roundly condemned by the nationals. Yours truly was in DC at the time and was amazed by the mainstream execs' unanimous whining about the petition. One even said, "Well, there goes any chance we ever had." Chance of what, I never could figure out.

Dinah Ross' 1979 first old growth appeals that saved 9,000 acres around Pahtoo (Mt. Jefferson)? Must not have happened. Millennium Grove/Middle Santiam? Grouse Mountain, British Columbia? No mention. North Roaring Devil '86? Must not have counted. The Easter Massacre in 1989? Ignored by TWS, but cited as the event that finally nationalized the issue by *Time* editor David Seideman and other writers. The landmark Breitenbush lawsuit? James Montieth and John Talberth's courageous "mass appeal" (done despite heavy admonishment from the nationals) of 238 old growth sales, 40 percent of which (7,600 acres) were never cut and are now in reserves?

The many colorful and informative events staged by Earth First!, Cathedral Forest Action Group, ONRC, Waldo Wilderness Council, and others? The endless hours spent by Mary Beth Nearing, Karen Wood and Freda London training people in the tactics of nonviolence? (In my history, these three extraordinary women get credit for the fact that no one was ever seriously hurt during the string of 1980's actions.)

Mike Roselle and friends' dependable arrival at site after site of destruction? The massive national education campaign carried out by Lou Gold, Beth Howell, Kelpie Wilson, Steve Marsden and their tireless allies at the Siskiyou Regional Education Project? Cecilia Lanman and EPIC's heroic efforts to save the last functional stands of redwoods? Redwood Summer? Opal Creek?

The founding in direct response to the ineffectiveness of the nationals of the Association of Forest Service Employees for Environmental Ethics (AFSEEE), the John Muir Society (Sierra Club reformers who are threatened with lawsuits by the Sierra Club over their name) and the Native Forest Council, with its highly-effective national media campaign? The critical early financial support of the McKenzie River Gathering Foundation and the Levinson Foundation? None of this hits the TWS radar screen. Unbelievable.

Same As It Ever Was

Perhaps even more unbelievable than their revisionist history is TWS's solution to the forest crisis: train people to monitor timber sales. The inherent catch is that though you may well stop some egregious sales that are in non-compliance, you undoubtedly will be supporting sales that are consistent with (co)-Option 9. The spotted owl lawsuit plaintiffs have already given the green light to dozens of old growth sales (see Phil Nanas' articles in the Samhain and Yule, 1994, editions of the *Journal*). Now, people are being primed to go after the two or three trees that might be cut in the (woefully inadequate) buffer area all the while ignoring the thousands of trees being cut on the "legal" side of the same sad buffer. Bottom line is: (co)-Option 9 monitors, funded by corporate America, are out there helping identify billions of dollars worth of public assets for liquidation and private profit.

One has to ask the question: if the plaintiff groups were really serious about stopping (co)-Option 9 in court, why were each and every one of them simultaneously preparing six-figure-plus grants to "monitor the implementation of Option 9?" Doesn't that create an economic incentive to lose? Maybe industry was right after all and it really is a "jobs" issue. If we succeed in stopping the Clinton Plan, a goodly number of stump monitors will be out of work. Hmmm?

Getting Rich—A Wide Abuse Analysis

So is it any wonder that corporate apologist and leader of the astroturf-roots Wise Use movement, Ron Arnold, has any number of bloated bureaucrat poster boys to wave before the public? Arnold has just released *Getting Rich,* an analysis of "the environmental movement's income, salary, contributor and investment patterns." In it he dissects the finances of the top twelve national groups—from the Nature Conservancy to the pollution credit (cancer bond) trading Environmental Defense Fund. We find that the average compensation of the top execs of the twelve groups is an astounding $174,873 per year, with Jay Hair of the National Wildlife Federation (NWF) hauling in the top salary of $242,060 and additional benefits of $58,000.

The dismal dozen have collective assets of over 1.2 billion dollars. In 1993, they took in $633 million and spent $556 million (averaging $46 million each), of which over $217 million went directly to officer, director and employee compensation. (Think how much threatened habitat could have been bought outright and set aside for that kind of money.)

The report goes on to list the major donors to these groups. The list is studded with Fortune 500 firms. ARCO, Boeing, Dow Chemical, DuPont, Exxon, Newmont Gold, Times-Mirror, Amoco, Ford, AT&T, GE, Proctor & Gamble, Shell Oil, Weyerhaeuser, Mobil Oil, Waste Management, Chevron and Pennzoil are just some of the major funders of the modern day mainstream environmental movement.

For their part, the groups return the favor and hold major investments in the afore-mentioned behemoths. TWS, for example, has $385,000 in GMAC and major holdings in dozer-builders Deere & Co. and Cummins Engine, JP Morgan, 3M, US Bancorp, Southern Cal Edison, GE, Gannett and IBM. Many other large corporations show up in the TWS multi-million dollar investment portfolio as well.

TWS also gets over $100,000 per year from the David and Lucille Packard Foundation, owners of a large Idaho ranch that's famous for being the welfare ranch most out of compliance on grazing. British Columbia's favorite deforestation company Macmillan-Bloedel recently bought 50 percent of Truss-Joist. Truss-Joist's CEO, Walt Minnick, put up $250,000 for a seat he now occupies on the TWS Board of Directors. Jerry Franklin, one of the architects of (co)-Option 9 is also on the TWS board (no conflict of interests there, I guess.) And,

continued on next page

The Wilderness Society's Grassroots Index

BY JUSTIN TIME

- 0:1 Ratio of environmental activists to ex-CIA lawyers on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:5 Ratio of environmental activists to **ranchers** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:1 Ratio of environmental activists to **timber industry** CEOs on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:1 Ratio of environmental activists to **Forest Service employees** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:9 Ratio of environmental activists to **FORTUNE 500 board members** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:5 Ratio of environmental activists to **millionaires** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:7 Ratio of environmental activists to **lawyers** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:3 Ratio of environmental activists to **oil company heirs and heiresses** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:2 Ratio of environmental activists to **bankers** on The Wilder ness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:3 Ratio of environmental activists to **Real Estate tycoons** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.
- 0:4 Ratio of environmental activists to **Foundation Directors** on The Wilderness Society's Board of Directors.

Whine and Cheese: The "Wilderness" Society Chokes in Idaho

BY WOODY BEARDSLEY

When asked by the *Journal* to do a story about the situation in Idaho and The Wilderness Society's mind boggling withdrawal of a federal injunction on six national forests that, among many other things, has left endangered salmon, wildlife habitat, and forest activists in a bad way, I hesitated. Not only am I not from Idaho, but both *Wild Forest Review* (*WFR*) and *High Country News* (*HCN*) have recently done stories on the subject. However, since I've never shied from a chance to stick my foot in my mouth, I said "Sure!" The two papers' treatment of the story couldn't have been more different. Like the divergent opinions surrounding the fall-out in Idaho, this is worth looking at.

On January 12, Federal Judge Dan Ezra granted an injunction closing six national forests in Idaho at the request of The Wilderness Society (TWS), the Pacific Rivers Council (PRC) and Sierra Club Legal Defense (SCLDF). It was the result of a suit they'd brought against the Forest Service for failing to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service and amend their forest plans to accommodate the endangered salmon. The injunction precluded all logging, mining and grazing activity on the Challis, Clearwater, Nez Perce, Payette, Salmon and Sawtooth National Forests.

For a minute it looked like a badly needed victory for the otherwise endangered salmon. But twelve days later, after a series of well orchestrated public Wise Use rallies against the injunction, and the day before the injunction was to be put in place, TWS pulled out. The judge reluctantly put a hold on the injunction until March 16, and it has since been permanently lifted with TWS' blessing. "The Society" did not want to take the blame for closing down the forests.

Jeffrey St. Clair published a blistering account of the fiasco and The Wilderness Society's sad capitulation in the latest *Wild Forest Review* (see "Whither the Wilderness Society?" and "Ignominy and Resistance in Idaho", *WFR*, vol. 2, no. 3). His story emphasizes the impacts the withdrawal has had on the situation in Cove/Mallard roadless area on the Nez Pierce National Forest where two Massive White Dudes (MWDs), with the support of dozens of other activists, attempted to block the logging activity which started back up when the injunction was lifted. The MWDs were arrested and charged with felonies under a bogus Idaho law which makes opposition to logging a felony (the charges have since been dropped). St. Clair went on, ripping into The Society and condemning it for the worst kind of chicken-shit, political flip-flopping cowardice that not only hurts the real work of grassroots activists, but more importantly, the wild lands and creatures The Society is supposedly committed to protect.

The *High Country News* story, written by free lance journalist Steve Stuevner (see "Salmon campaign fractures over how to include people," *HCN*, vol. 27 no.3), at first glance was all but an outright apology for the Wilderness Society's lame behavior. They published a big picture of an anti-environmental rally in Salmon to emphasize the effect the rally had, and it read like *HCN* thought the reversal of the injunction was a good thing. Wouldn't want to upset the locals now, would we? It did raise the question of why TWS filed for the injunction without talking to local activists in the first place (folks who knew the politics were against such an injunction), but not once did it mention the Cove/Mallard activists in Dixie, Idaho, nor the campaign to save roadless habitat. But this is no surprise. *HCN* and it's publisher Ed Marston have long been detractors of Earth First!, direct action campaigns, and civil disobedience. Why change now?

The difference between the stories in *Wild Forest Review* and *High Country News* highlights the important strategic difference in conservation strategies between grassroots activist styles and large corporate organization styles (in this case it could just as easily have been The Wilderness Society, the Sierra Club, or

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STATE OF THE MOVEMENT UNDRESSED

continued from the previous page

TWS head, G. John Roush, is himself a Montana rancher. Yet, TWS Washington state staffer Bob Freimark states, in a recent *Oregonian* article, that "funding doesn't influence our policy."

TWS, SCLDF and Cove/Mallard

Elsewhere in this issue there is analysis and reporting on the (ig)-Noble Timber Sale sell-out [see above]. Briefly, I'd like to note that the sale and all habitat disturbing activities on six Idaho national forests were effectively stopped by an injunction that the Sierra Club Legal Defense Fund (SCLDF) obtained by telling the Court that an emergency situation existed, then quickly went back to court and asked for a "stay" of the injunction. Sound familiar? Despite the fact that SCLDF plans to go to the Supreme Court to defend an identical injunction in Oregon, SCLDF illogic deemed it OK to give up the Idaho version. Why?

Well, it seems that some of the Idaho ranchers that pay the salary of Idaho TWS staffer Craig Gerkhe called in their (cow) chips. Best I can figure is that rancher, TWS fund-raiser, and former Governor Cecil D. Andrus put in a call to Bruce Babbitt. Babbitt then leaned on his flunky, former TWS-head George Frampton. Who then leaned on Gerkhe. Who, in turn, called off SCLDF.

Amazingly, Gerkhe claimed that they had to give up the injunction as environmentalists would get hurt otherwise. Ironically, the actual risks to real conservationists increased dramatically as a direct result of TWS's action, as dozens of conscientious folks headed to the area to begin CD in a climate where the Wide Abusers have been emboldened by the nationals' lack of backbone.

Now it seems that SCLDF will be faced with sanctions (judicial reprimands and possible fines) from the court that granted, then stayed the injunction, as it violates the duties of SCLDF attorneys as officers of the court to cry "emergency" then give up a court injunction for political reasons.

Vic Sher, head of SCLDF, writes in a recent article in SCLDF's in-house journal, *In Brief*, how, "Despite our victories in court, the political landscape for the environment is more bleak than at any time in the past quarter century. Environmental disputes have become increasingly complex, contentious, and expensive. Sadly, with mounting frequency, we see our courtroom victories threatened—and even, sometimes, lost in the court of public opinion."

Leaving aside the glaring question of "what victories?" one can easily make the case that our losses in the court of public opinion are directly related to SCLDF and the nationals' knee-jerk capitulation every time there is even a glimmer of holding the line and gaining the backing of the general public. Environmentalists are seen, much like the spineless Clinton, as standing for nothing every time an injunction or timber sale is given up.

The Deal of Shame End Game

On February 9, the *Oregonian* reported that Senator Slade Gorton, R-Timber, was preparing to introduce yet another "sufficiency" rider. This, Gorton assures us, would not be resisted by Clinton. According to Gorton, he has "private assurance" from the White House (read: Babbitt) that Bubba won't veto such legislation.

On March 15, 1995, the House of Congress got the jump on Gorton and his extractionist senate buddies when they passed a "salvage" rider proposed by Reps. Charles Taylor (R-NC) and Norm Dicks (D-WA). The Taylor/Dicks Amendment calls for the cutting of six-billion board feet (disturbing 150,000 acres) of public forest over the next two years. Like past riders, Taylor/Dicks suspends the relevant environmental laws. Such so-called sufficiency riders show how desperate the plunderers are to hide what they are doing to America's public lands from the owners of these lands. The polemic of weakness, as preached and practiced by the nationals, has emboldened the beast once again.

When the plaintiffs gave up their offering of sacrificial old growth in late 1993, in justification they trotted out a letter from the White House promising that Clinton would resist any future sufficiency riders. This letter, obviously not worth the tree flesh it was written on, was the sole worthless trade-off resulting from the plaintiffs' surrender.

When Will They Ever Learn?

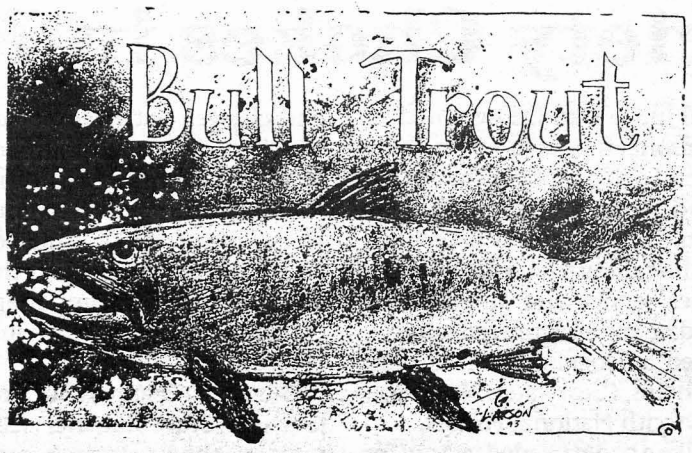
The scariest part of the nationals' and big regionals' capitulation/denial is that now they are proposing more of the same for the upcoming Endangered Species Act (ESA) reauthorization fight. On a continuum from "Zero Tolence for Species Loss" on one end and the "Developer's Dream" on the other, the nationals propose a starting position somewhere to the developer's side of the middle. They actually propose that we engage industry in Habitat Conservation Plans (HCP) which would absolve large landowners from responsibility for any protection of species' habitat on their lands, despite any new scientific knowledge that might come along in the future. Kind of reminds one of how they went to the Forest Conference with pleas for Adaptive Management Areas.

Weyerhaeuser just gained federal approval of a spotted owl HCP for their Millicoma Tree Farm (209,000 acres of purloined public land) in Coos and Douglas counties, Oregon. This Babbitt-signed plan calls for leaving a mammoth 1,592 acres of old growth standing (for 35 known nesting pairs and resident singles) and is unlitigable for 50 years. Amazingly, all 1,592 acres are legally harvestable after 20 years, meaning a full 100 percent of the old growth will be destroyed. Not surprisingly, this travesty sailed through without a word of protest from the national groups.

The result on the ground has been horrid. We know the disgraceful litany of failure of the national groups' "Lobby and Litigate" strategy. Have they learned anything from their failures? Not a chance. When pinned down at the recent Western Ancient Forest Activists Conference in Ashland, Oregon, Mike Axline, one of the legal minds behind the litigation strategy, claimed that the plaintiff groups hadn't given any green light for a single tree to be cut. Of course, this is in direct contradiction to the stumps on the ground. Axline refused to say whether the plaintiffs would appeal Judge Dwyer's decision. They eventually decided not to appeal, thus securing their "monitoring" jobs. Axline ended his hubris-ridden analysis by defending the failed litigation as "still the best strategy."

Sorry, Mike, but we're not that defeatist. Your "best strategy" is a proven loser. We believe that with acknowledgment of the true history and a better analysis of what went wrong, we can get it right. It is time to shed any illusions of help coming from the national groups and get on with it. Fighting off Arnold with the Babbittry of Clinton and the baggage of the nationals strapped to our backs won't be easy, but is there any other choice?

Agency Bootlickers Sell Out Fish



BY CHAR TOOTH

The Pacific Northwest and the Northern Rockies are quickly losing the bull trout, and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) seems to want to quicken the process. The situation is similar to that of the Chinook salmon. Both fish were abundant 50 years ago, were heavily fished, are extremely susceptible to the devastating influences of logging, mining, grazing and development, and both are being denied the proper treatment as endangered species. In documents released in February, the USFWS was caught red-handed illegally delaying emergency protection to the nearly extinct bull trout.

Bull trout—most closely related to arctic char—are an amazingly adaptive species, often migrating between lakes and rivers and, among certain groups, between rivers and the ocean. Bull trout often live in the highest mountain streams, higher than most other trout can tolerate. Despite their incredible evolutionary adaptation, the bull trout are on their way out, yet another casualty of the west's forest and range practices. Cows and clearcuts are doing the bull trout in, causing erosion, siltation and sedimentation to their habitat. Stream and lake siltation is intolerable to the bull trout, who require pristine, silt-free waters or they literally suffocate.

When the bull trout was given "warranted but precluded" status last summer, the FWS ignored recommendations of its own status review team that stated that the fish faced a "priority 2", or "high and imminent" threat of extinction. Such a threat legally earns the beleaguered bull trout an emergency listing under the ESA. Politicians such as Marc Racicot (R-MT), Phil Batt (R-ID), and former Idaho governor Cecil Andrus, pressured agency leaders in Washington, DC, to change that designation to "priority 9—moderate to low." Fortunately, they didn't get away with it.

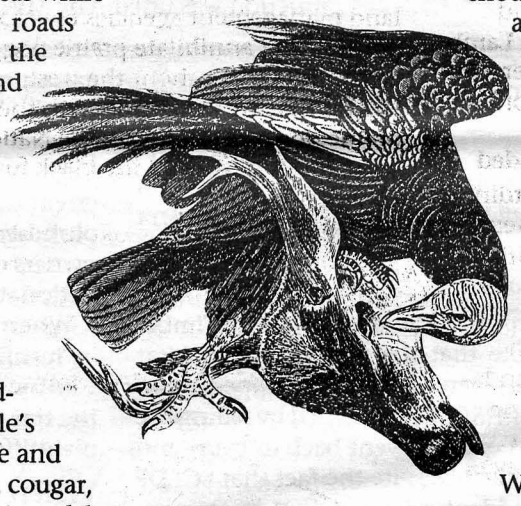
The Alliance for the Wild Rockies and Friends of the Wild Swan, along with Swan View Coalition and the Kettle Range Conservation Group, filed suit against the USFWS over their arbitrary and illegal actions. These groups have also filed suit against the equally heinous Forest Service for their failure to provide for viable populations of bull trout in NF in Montana, Idaho, Oregon, and Washington, as required by the National Forest Management Act.

Clearly, the USFWS is acting in a completely irrational manner and must be stopped before they finish the act of decimating the bull trout. If we don't stop them, this very stupid and cowardly agency will do just that. Please call and write Mollie Beattie, Director, US Fish and Wildlife Service, 1849 C. St. NW, Washington DC 20240; phone (202) 208-4545.

Buzzard Roadless Area in Eastern Oregon Threatened

BY BLUE MOUNTAINS BIODIVERSITY PROJECT

The Umatilla National Forest (NF) is preparing to enter one of Eastern Oregon's last intact roadless areas. We need your help! The "Buzzard" Timber Sale has been planned for the sole purpose of demonstrating that logging can be done in roadless areas while preserving their "roadless character." No new roads would be built yet this logging would threaten the local viability of a great number of sensitive and rare species. The "Buzzard" roadless area is home to many creatures who need it more than humans do. These creatures can co-exist with current primitive recreation but not with the proposed logging. Rare and sensitive species thought to be in the Buzzard Project Area include tiger salamander, spotted frog, tailed frog, wolverine, lynx, willow flycatcher, lazuli bunting, northern goshawk, hoary bat, white-headed woodpecker, northern three-toed woodpecker, boreal owl, brown creeper, fisher, preble's shrew, blue mountain cryptochian, green fescue and pine martin. The area is also home to black bear, cougar, white-tailed deer, elk, hermit thrush, black-chinned hummingbird, golden eagle, rubber boa, mink, rainbow trout, osprey, spruce grouse, yellow warbler, and northern flying squirrel.



The "Buzzard" Project Area is headwaters drainage to the Grande Ronde, Wenaha, and Walla Walla rivers and ultimately the Snake and Columbia. Logging in the area could adversely affect endangered spring and fall Chinook and sensitive steelhead and bull trout.

The area contains important lynx habitat and is large enough for a lynx home range. It could also be part of a wolverine home range. The "Jauss and Corral Roadless Area" (the official name of the roadless area where the Buzzard sale is located) forms an important buffer for and potential addition to the Wenaha-Tucannon Wilderness. The Buzzard roadless area is one of the few areas left in eastern Oregon's national forest land still in a relatively natural state, which can give us heightened awareness, attunement to the world and a sense of connectedness so lacking in the rush of fractured society.

Please help us stop this sale. *Comments are due by May 1st*!! Write to Tom Reilly, Walla Walla Ranger District, 1415 West Rose, Walla Walla, WA 99362; phone (509) 522-6090. Tell him you are opposed to *all* logging in *any* roadless areas which must be protected to provide larger, intact wildlife habitat for sensitive species and that you support only the "No Action, Alternative 'A.'" You can also ask for a copy of the Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Buzzard Sale.

1992 RRRendezvous Site Protected

BY REDLANCE

Ancient Forest Rescue and San Juan Earth First! have successfully appealed a decision by the Forest Service (FS) to log the area adjacent to the 1992 RRR site in the Piedra River drainage in the San Juan Mountains of Colorado. Many of you who attended the rendezvous undoubtedly walked through the forests the FS wants to log in the Dudley-Horsefly timber sales.

The "Horsefly" portion of this area contains the last significant stand of old-growth Ponderosa Pine left unprotected on the San Juan National Forest (NF). Actually, the Forest Service (who named these people?) said they could enhance the old growth nature of this area. Leave it to the Forest Service to think that logging can improve old growth. Maybe someday they will understand that one of the key characteristics of old growth is freedom from human tampering.

As for the virgin old growth mixed conifer and spruce-fir of the "Dudley" (Coyote Ridge to those in the know) portion of the sale, the FS prescribed 2.5 miles of new roads to cure the decadent forest of its old growth. And of course just to make the bad worse the FS threw in its usual few hundred acres of aspen clearcuts.

Members of Ancient Forest Rescue and Earth First! wrote the appeal for this decision, with the aid of the wizard-like law skills of Roger Flynn. We were joined in our appeal by two other groups, the Colorado Environmental Coalition and the San Juan Citizen's Alliance. Four for the Forest prevailed in our appeal, when Tom Thompson, the Deputy Regional Forester, found that the EA for the sale had failed in several regards. First, the Biological Evaluation (BE) for the sale failed to analyze the effects (i.e. how many dead?) the sale would have on the tiny, but very spunky, pygmy nuthatch, which just happens to love old growth pine forests. Second, the BE failed to look at how the sale would affect the golden crowned kinglet and the purple martin. All of the aforementioned species are classified as "sensitive" in this region. Third, the EA failed to look at the sales' cumulative impact, especially in regards to the area's watershed. Fourth, the EA failed to affirm that the sale would comply with FS Regional Soil Quality Standards. Fifth and finally, the EA did not adequately state which mitigations for the sales would be adopted into the sale contract.

So we won the appeal and this Forest is saved, right? Not quite. The FS is now doing its best imitation of Dr. Frankenstein and is trying to resurrect this unholy beast of a sale with a new EA. Shall we sit idle and watch the beautiful forest that sheltered us at one of our gatherings be destroyed? No! Rest assured San Juan Earth First! will fight this sale until its dead for good. Feel like lending a hand? Be sure to contact the San Juan EF! contact in the directory if you're passing our way this year. We will be having plenty of gatherings in the old growth in this area this summer, and a direct action campaign if they send the trucks in. Also feel free to write a letter to San Juan NF Supervisor Jim Webb at 701 Camino del Rio, Durango, CO 81301. Just tell Webb how you feel about this area being logged; he's got an open mind.

Freddies Being Schooled in Skirting NEPA

An affidavit recently submitted to the Vermont Federal District Court could have far-reaching implications for the past and present management of national forests in the Northeast. According to the affidavit, filed by a former United States Forest Service (USFS) employee, the Northeast Regional Office instructed employees to circumvent the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

The affidavit was filed as a part of a lawsuit by several conservation organizations and Vermont citizens that challenges a USFS proposal to log an area of the Green Mountain National Forest known as Lamb Brook. A coalition of conservation organizations and citizens of Vermont filed a lawsuit on June 9, 1994 to halt a project that would log over 1,000 acres in the 5,000 acre Lamb Brook area. The area, in the towns of Wilmington, Searsburgh and Readsboro, Vermont, is one of the last wild tracts left in the Green Mountain National Forest.

In the affidavit, Shelley Hight, a former FS employee who worked on the Lamb Brook proposal, stated that at a February 11, 1992 employee training session conducted by officials from the Northeast Regional Office of the FS, the trainers "made it clear...that they were interested...in teaching us how to get around NEPA requirements." They also "stressed that [staff should] refrain from revealing potentially significant environmental impacts which might upset the result desired by the Forest Service."

Hight cited as an example that "when staffers from our office walked Lamb Brook, they found bear cub tracks in the area. The staff discussed Lamb Brooks importance as a bear 'nursery.' However, this information was never included in the [Environmental Assessment]."

According to the affidavit, the trainers included Dane Maddox, Northeast Regional NEPA Coordinator-Gary Lytle, Team Leader for Law Enforcement and Claims; and two Forest Service regional office lawyers, Leslie Auriemmo, Esq. and Vincent Vukevich, Esq.

The lawsuit was brought by Green Mountain Forest Watch (GMFW), Conservation Law Foundation, Preserve Appalachian Wilderness and nine other groups and individuals. For more information contact Mathew Jacobson, GMFW, (802) 257-4878.

Group Sues to Save Swift Fox

BY BIODIVERSITY LEGAL FOUNDATION

The Biodiversity Legal Foundation and biologist Jon Sharps have filed suit in federal court against Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt and the US Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) for their failure to issue a final ruling on a petition to list and protect the swift fox in the Great Plains under the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

The USFWS received a petition to list the swift fox as an endangered species on March 3, 1992 triggering a 90 day review process to determine whether the listing is warranted or not. On June 1, 1994, just about two years late, the agency published a notice in the *Federal Register* that listing the fox as threatened or endangered "may be warranted" throughout the swift fox's historic range.

The ESA requires that within 12 months after receiving a petition that has been determined to have enough scientific information to indicate that the listing may be warranted, the Secretary of the Interior must publish in the *Federal Register* a finding of "warranted" or "not warranted." In the case of the swift fox, the required decision is now almost one year overdue.

Swift foxes have been reduced to primarily small, fragmented and isolated populations. Their preferred habitat has been severely reduced over time by the conversion of native prairie to agriculture and other human developments. Prey species that were normally available to the swift fox have also been seriously reduced by prairie conversion. Swift fox numbers have suffered as a result of predator and rodent control programs, trapping, hunting and capture by dogs.

There is a close association between the gregarious-natured swift fox and the prairie dog ecosystem. Prairie dogs provide the fox with both a year-round prey base and an abundance of burrows. Tragically, state and federal land management agencies continue policies that annihilate prairie dog ecosystems throughout the west, endangering not only the swift fox, but also the 165 known vertebrate species that are associated with the prairie dog ecosystem. As the US Forest Service continues its war against prairie dog ecosystems on the National Grasslands, many additional species, such as the burrowing owl, ferruginous hawk and the black footed ferret, become increasingly imperiled and head for the endangered species list.

According to South Dakota biologist Jon Sharps, a co-plaintiff in the lawsuit, "The Swift Fox is close to extirpation (local extinction) in the Northern Great Plains and recovery is unlikely throughout its range without federal intervention and protection."

Contact Jasper Carlton, Biodiversity Legal Foundation, (303) 442-3037 and Jon Sharps (605) 923-6399

Innu Territory Invaded by Screaming Jets

BY FRIENDS OF NITASSINAN

The United States Airforce (USAF) has announced plans to conduct low-level training flights over Innu land in Labrador this spring. They join the British, German and Dutch airforces which currently conduct 7-8000 low-level training sorties per season over Innu land from Canadian Forces Goose Bay Base. These airforces began flying over Innu territory in 1979 at the invitation of the Canadian government without prior knowledge or approval of the Innu. Belgian, Italian and French airforces will also be training at Goose Bay this spring. Despite the continuing protests of the Innu, low-level flights flights have increased.

Low-level training to the Innu means jets screaming at an altitude of 100 feet over their land and camps. The startle effect of overflights is associated with increased miscarriages, heart attacks, and permanent hearing damage. The Innu are also extremely concerned about the impact of the training on the wildlife they depend on. Scientific studies corroborate what Innu elders have been saying for some time now: the flights are having a negative effect on the health of caribou, waterfowl, raptors, and other important species. The airspace that the USAF plans to train in has never been ceded to the Canadian government by way of treaty or land rights agreement, and belongs to the Innu people. In lieu of treaty, the Canadian government is illegally renting out Innu airspace and certain ground facilities to third parties (NATO air forces) against the will of the Innu people.

The Canadian Department of National Defence (DND) has announced these flights without even waiting for the results of the federal environmental review of the program. They are now bringing in a fourth airforce and increasing the number of sorties to 18,000.

The planned USAF deployment to Goose Bay, should it come to pass, will take place without adequate environmental protection. The DND has attempted to implement an avoidance program that, at least in theory, requires pilots to avoid noise sensitive areas for wildlife (including two endangered species), outfitter lodges, and Innu camps.

However, the avoidance program was proposed by DND before it had done surveys to locate the noise sensitive areas. When the surveys were done, they indicated that huge areas would be closed to flying. The client airforces claimed that such environmental protections would interfere with their training programs, and subsequently, DND relaxed the avoidance criteria to the point where they are ineffective. The conclusion: military pilots can't both train *and* avoid people and wildlife, even at the current training levels.

Should the USAF commence training at Goose Bay this April, it will do so in violation of aboriginal rights, a defective environmental mitigation program and a shoddy and discredited environmental review.

Letters are urgently needed. Please write to:

Dr. William Perry, Secretary of Defense,The Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301; FAX (703) 695-1219

Jean Chretian, Prime Minister Canada, Langevin Block, 80 Wellington Street, 2nd floor, Ottawa, ONK1A OA6

Hermutt Kohl, Federal Chancellor, Adenauer-Allee 139-141, 5300, Bonn FR Germany

For more information contact:
Daniel Ashini, Innu Nation, POB 119, Sheshatshiu, Nitassinan, AOP 1MO Canada; (709) 497-8396.
Friends of Nitassinan, POB 804 Burlington VT 05402; (802) 863-0571

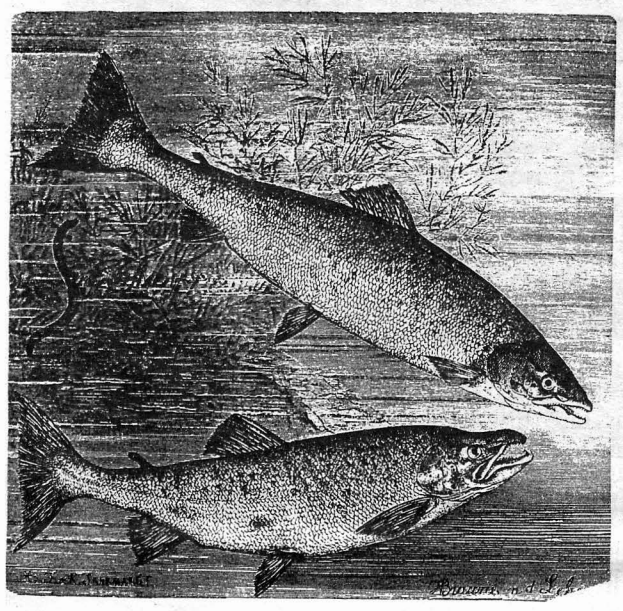
What Snake River Chinook Salmon Are and What They Need Right Now

BY ERIC RYBERG

Snake River Chinook salmon are anadromous fish, which means they spend most of their lives in the ocean, but are born and spawn inland. Their eggs are laid in "redds," or nests, usually in gentle riffles in the headwaters and tributaries of, in this case, the Snake and Salmon Rivers.

For reasons nobody knows, or can possibly know, they swim to the ocean after up to two years spent in the stream of their birth. There they migrate north, off the coast of Alaska. Then, after several years (it varies) spent growing large and tough, they turn around and swim back. How they do it nobody knows, but they navigate to the precise spot they were born. There the females use their tails to excavate a nest, moving up to a tons of riverbottom each, and this after the upstream swim which can take months.

Salmon, by the time they get "home," are exhausted, wounded, and nearly dead. In some respects they are dead; their flesh usually has begun to rot, and often strips of it literally hang from their bodies by the time they reach their birthplace. They eat almost nothing on their trip. After they spawn they drift downstream, too exhausted to fight even a small current. They soon die.



If these creatures are to persist, they need a few things from us immediately. They need spawning habitat which is not polluted with fine sediment from erosion. Sediment seals in the eggs and asphyxiates them. Logging, grazing, and roadbuilding in Chinook salmon habitat must be curtailed or eliminated. This is a big part of the salmon's decline, but it is not the biggest.

They need a current to follow to the ocean. At present, the dams on the Snake River and the Columbia create stagnant lakes. The fish in their migration to the ocean die from their inability to find their way through the unmoving muck. It turns out that these fish are smart enough that they don't need *much* of a current—the tiniest drift seems to be discernible to them. Many people believe that if the dams would only send a little extra water through the dams during downstream migration, this would provide the necessary flow. Our bureaucrats, however, are greedy, and they do not want to give up *any* water by flushing it downstream. Many believe the problem of inadequate flow to be the largest obstacle to salmon survival right now. Any letter urging efforts to preserve salmon should insist on "drawdowns" to enhance downstream flow. Obviously, removal of the dams is the long-term solution. Right now there just isn't time to argue: we need drawdowns *this year*. We can blow the dams next year, when we have proven the need for such a thing to all Americans (except those who happen to own electric companies.)

The fish need to get not just to the dams, but over or through them. They need to make it through the turbines without getting ground up into paté. Many who seem to know believe this is less of a problem than you might expect. Most fish seem to survive the turbines.

The fish need to survive in the ocean. They need not to be caught by the millions by fishermen. This is *less* of a problem now, because commercial fishing for salmon is no longer legal in this country.

The fish need to be able to get back upstream. They need to get past the dams. Where this is a problem, it is a permanent one: salmon from areas above dams without adequate fish ladders are now extinct, and the point is moot. But the dams with marginal fish ladders need to be modified. Also, water withdrawals from streams in the summer for livestock grazing and agriculture create dried up streams or reduce streamflow to the point where water temperatures rise above the lethal level for salmon and their eggs.

Finally, in the long term fish populations need to be free of the genetic tweaking and introduction of disease that happens when hatchery fish enter the picture. Hatcheries are *not,* emphatically *not,* an answer to the problem, but a very big threat. It is absolutely vital that we not rely on *or even allow* further hatchery interference.

If we do not solve these problems right now, this year, we will be mourning the salmon and cursing our inaction just a few years hence. Please remind your congresspeople how important it is to take the necessary steps to protect this animal, and write to the Washington offices of the big environmental groups (especially the ones you may belong to) and insist they make this a top priority. It is too late to bicker and whine: we must demand, and we must demand persuasively and articulately. We must not relent.

On March 5, the National Marine Fisheries Service released its plan for managing the downstream fish migration this spring. It plans to continue barging the fish around the dams, a practice which has proven to be completely meritless. Salmon have been barged for 20 years now, and their population has undergone an unabated nose-dive. The plan does not call for drawdowns. Only a truly massive public outcry can save the last remnants of Snake River Chinook salmon. Please take a moment now and write a letter to your congresspersons demanding that drawdowns be implemented this year.

The Lights Grow Dim

continued from the front page

angst and a bad sense of direction. No, these are some bad-ass fish, and if you ever saw one clear the waterfall over here on French Creek you'd know what I mean.

But, see, you won't see that. You won't *ever* see that for as long as you or anybody with even the dimmest memory of your name is alive. Because these bad-ass fish, these fish that have endured dams, Freddies, and bureaucrats for whom an appropriate obscenity has not yet been invented, *these* fish, these French Creek fish, are now extinct. The fish that lived and spawned and died by the millions in French Creek, the fish that swam a thousand miles only to be confronted with one first-class extra-gnarly waterfall just a few feet from their home, these fish whose ancestors have cleared that waterfall for millennia: they are extinct. Nobody has seen a French Creek Salmon since 1987, when Rich Uberuaga, a Freddy, watched a lone salmon die, the last of his race, the last ever to make that mighty leap home to the gentle headwater riffles of French Creek. There won't be Chinook salmon in French Creek ever again. They're *gone*, compadre.

You can't take a Chinook salmon (or salmon egg) from, say, Big Creek and stick her in French Creek and expect her to come back to French Creek when it's time to spawn. She's too smart. She *knows*. She knows something isn't right from the very instant she hatches, and like I said, this is a no compromise fish we're discussing. She won't want any truck with French Creek. She doesn't belong in French Creek. She doesn't like French Creek. She *resents* being in French Creek. If she could find out who put her there she'd take that gigantic jaw of hers and crush the bastard.

About eight-hundred or so of these fish made it back to Idaho last year. That's down from a high of countless millions on, say, the year I was born, 1965. There are people around here, lunatics to the very core, who urge me to have hope. They point out that a single Chinook salmon lays 4,000 eggs. They remind me that this fish has endured our dams and our wanton forest practices for decades, and is still holding on, albeit barely. They do not let me forget that this fish is *tough... Means business.*

I appreciate their optimism, sort of. But a new kind of resolve, a new kind of mean-spirited, focused, creative, and coordinated attack is going to be required if we are to do this fish any justice in its final days. There isn't any time left for cheery optimism, and there isn't anything left to be optimistic about. This animal is going extinct before our eyes, and it isn't happening slowly. Empty, soul-less bureaucrats and hollow Freddies spew their dizzying garbage and continue to level their vacant, brainless glares upon this land, forever impoverishing everything they encounter, *and they are not opposed.*

There is no 1970's Sierra Club, pounding the streets and proving to our leadership that people care about an animal that holds so much beauty and wisdom and magic. There is no Audubon Society out there, holding high its photos of this creature and demanding its protection. There is not a National Wildlife Federation, or Trout Unlimited even, quietly pleading for a return to the days when it was legal to fish for salmon here. Instead there is a weak and frightened shambles of an environmental movement, ever bickering for more money and ever whining for more attention, all the fight long ago gone from their lifeless features and languid brains.

If this fish is to live, then we are going to have to fight. We cannot save this fish by making friends with our adversaries, because the very people who are running the salmon off the planet are getting rich by doing so. This seems to be something the big groups do not understand. They are afraid. They have lost their way. They equivocate, they waver, they worry and fret. They are not tough and they do not mean business.

The Snake River Chinook salmon deserves better. The Snake River Chinook salmon is one of the most magical, bewildering, and fierce creatures to bless the planet, and right now it needs our help. If we cannot muster the will to save it, then we are not alive ourselves.

What you can do:

1) Write to your congresspersons, especially the Republicans. Tell them you hate nothing more than corporate welfare schemes like the one run for the power companies in the Snake and Columbia Rivers. Tell them you think the Chinook salmon is a mighty important part of your heritage and you want your grandchildren to be able to watch salmon leap waterfalls on their way home from the sea, and you don't care what it costs, because such a thing is priceless. Tell them you just don't really care much about jobs when it comes to keeping Chinook salmon in Idaho.

2) Write to the Sierra Club *et al* and chew them out for not making this a giant, stinking, pain-in-the-ass issue for everybody in Washington DC. Do not feel an overwhelming need to be polite to these sell-out Range-Rover driving minions of political expediency. Tell them to do their jobs and fight for salmon or get the hell out of the way.

3) Form an army and distribute literature and photos of this fish to everyone you encounter, particularly children. The Chinook salmon is a haunting, awesome creature, and photos and tales of its life history alone are compelling enough arguments for its protection. If you're a schoolteacher, give a lesson on anadromous ichthyology. Remind children what a precious thing it is to be able to share this planet with other creatures.

4) Use your head, pay attention and model your life after the Chinook salmon. Most important of all: rejoice in life, but not just your own.

Mealey Minded Management:

Stephen Mealey Jr.'s liquidation plan for the Upper Columbia River Basin

BY RON CONSTABLE

They're logging in Cove-Mallard. The Dwyer injunction has been lifted. Release language is floating around Congress, the Endangered Species Act is under the knife, the Boise National Forest is plotting a quarter billion board foot timber sale, some clown called "Newt" is running the country, and to top it all off I just saw a TeeVee commercial advocating the curtailment of environmental law to allow more salvage logging. Whoopee. Well, before I grabbed my gun and headed down to the nearest fast food joint, I paused to ask, "Can it get any worse?"

It was then I remembered about ecosystem management in the Upper Columbia River Basin (UCRB). I realized that before I disappeared into a rage of senseless blood and violence, I must warn the good readers of the *Earth First! Journal* about this latest interagency farce, the UCRB EIS team.

What a team they are. Their captain, or ringleader if you will, is one Stephen Mealey. The Mealey family (or Mealies) have a long history of nasty, exploitative destruction. Steve Mealey Senior, in a fit of utilitarian pique, once uttered, "We can go on talking about environmental integrity until hell freezes over but if Jim McClure wants us to produce 11 billion board feet, then, by God, we are going to produce 11 billion board feet." Were there justice, or normal adherence to the laws of inbreeding, the Mealey genes would have died out long ago. Some believe they already have and Steve Jr. is out to show dad once and for all that he can shove the Mealey nose up the butt of the timber industry further than anybody.

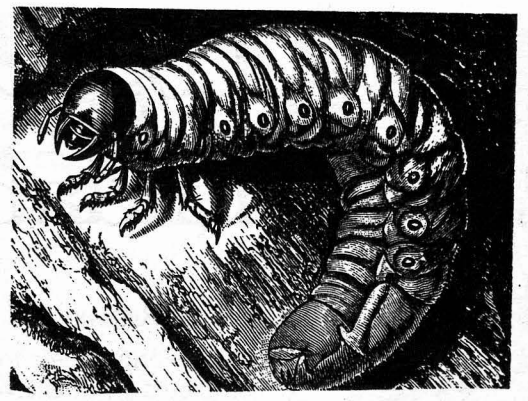
Allan Mountain Roadless Area, Idaho/Montana border

The UCRB includes most of Idaho, western Montana, northwestern Wyoming, and parts of northern Nevada and Utah. It is close to 70,000 square miles in size, with some of the wildest places left in the US. The greater Salmon, greater Yellowstone, and Glacier/Continental Divide ecosystems all lay within its bounds. One could not possibly say enough about the importance of the UCRB to the ecological health of the continent. This is where the wolf still roams, the wolverine prowls, and countless rare and elsewhere extirpated species find their last refuge.

Steve Mealey is now in charge of these lands, and like all managers, he has a plan. This is not your ordinary plan though; it is bigger—much bigger—and bolder than your run-of-the-mill Forest Service scheme. This is a plan to slick off timber from not one or two roadless areas or to liquidate a single watershed. This is big. Sales like Cove-Mallard will seem like a twig snapping in comparison. This is Ecosystem Management—the forestry of the 90's. Streamlined, centralized, efficient destruction of entire ecosystems. It's a plan to create havoc across an area encompassing five western states. What this Mealey guy has in his mealy mind is a "scientifically sound and ecosystem based strategy for management of the Upper Columbia River Basin."

A bit arrogant if you ask me. What do you imagine such a strategy will include? Will it be "scientifically sound" like, say, Option 9? Or the Shelton Sustained Yield in the Olympic National Forest? Or the Bitterroot blunders of the 60's? Or the innumerable other Freddie flounderings that have put so many species on the brink of extinction? Does this Mealey man know what an ecosystem is? If Steve Jr. does, will he be able to base a management strategy on one? The answer is obviously no. If the study of ecosystems has taught us anything it is that there remains a tremendous amount that we do not know.

We have a problem with definitions. In 1986 the Wyoming legislature introduced a bill to refuse to acknowledge the concept of the Greater Yellowstone



The mealey worm—a highly evolved and intelligent species— not to be confused with sub-species found within the Mealey family.

Ecosystem. The Mealey team thinks this way. For Steve and his claque, ecosystems exist only on cool, computer generated maps and in their big hard drives. "Scientifically sound" here means the science of economics — something that can be counted and fit easily into graphs and Mealey pie charts. They have a huge inventory of timber (an ecosystem) and their science tells them that it is an inventory at risk. It can burn (fires make 'em especially scared) or get eaten up by bugs, or blow over in the wind, or even something more outlandishly horrible can happen like the passage of NREPA into law.

The "scientifically sound and ecosystem based strategy" coagulating in the Mealey mind is a scheme to cash in on this ecosystem before something like one of the above scenarios happens to it and it all goes to waste. This is Forest planning in the 90's. Ecosystem management. We are not looking at clearcutting on measly little planning areas or even across entire National Forests, but across entire ecosystems. Change the forest plans, disavow the law. Break out the chain saws and bulldozers, boys. Break out the clubs, mace and handcuffs too. The Mealey Man is in charge and we've got an ecosystem to manage.

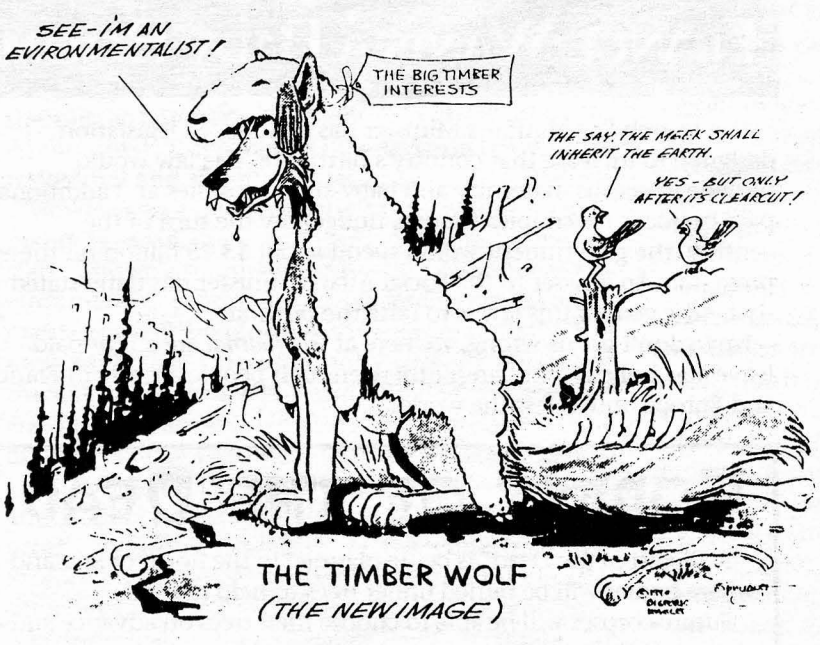
The Upper Columbia River Basin is too massively beautiful, too full of wonder and wild, thriving life to pass into this Mealey guy's hands. We have to make him and his kind leave it the hell alone, somehow. But I don't know what we are gonna do. Hopefully we will see the awful truth of this Mealey plan and act in a direct and appropriately furious fashion. May I suggest that if you have been hoarding some fiendish little scheme for the Freddies that you use it now, against this Mealey man and his team. Here is their address in case you want to get involved with the project's scoping or something: Upper Columbia River Basin EIS Team, 304 N. 8th Street, Rm. 246, Boise, ID 83702.

Whine and Cheese: The Wilderness Society Chokes in Idaho

continued from page 11

National Wildlife Federation). The problem with national organizations, while they whine and cheese their way across the west at spectacularly situated board meetings, is the problem with America. They want to have their cake and eat it too. Unwilling to face the difficult task of saying enough is enough, they will remain intellectually dishonest as long as they are unwilling to take a hard look at their own rhetoric. Their sentimental love affair with the Wild West belies their unwillingness to let the law work.

I talked to Michael Scott, TWS Regional Director out of Bozeman, and when it came right down to it he said, "We don't want to be the ones to tell those people they're out of a job." This is exactly the problem. I should have asked him, "Is that the same as not wanting to be blamed for protecting salmon habitat?" but I chickened out. On the other hand, Jake Kreilick, long time Cove/Mallard campaigner said, "Sure we sympathize with those workers, but until they find another line of work, there's going to be conflict." At least Kreilick (like *WFR*) is willing to face the tough facts.


SEE-I'M AN EVIRONMENTALIST!
THE BIG TIMBER INTERESTS
THE SAY, THE MEEK SHALL INHERIT THE EARTH.
YES - BUT ONLY AFTER IT'S CLEARCUT!
THE TIMBER WOLF
(THE NEW IMAGE)

Many have criticized St. Claire's work as just so much bashing. They call it childish, shallow and reactionary. It's as if these people would say, "so what? The Wilderness Society fucked up again. Old story. No big deal." But it is a big deal, because they are a large and influential organization who is willing to tell the federal courts and industry they don't care about the law—instead they'll pander to the bullying cries of industry. This cannot be the only message big government and big industry hear from the conservation movement, and fortunately it is not.

Here in Missoula, MT, we are lucky to have a wide variety of grassroots organizations that continue to push and say the unpopular things and take the heat for the movement. Their very diversity is their success, as they draw from the eclectic energy and creativity that only comes from people involved because they want to be, not because they get paid to be.

- There is the Alliance for the Wild Rockies (AWR) and its legislative campaign for the Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA). AWR's strategy hasn't changed with the new Congress. It is the same clear vision for protecting wildland ecosystem it has always been. And while the nationals have been ringing their hands about the new "evil" Congress, AWR, with the help of Representative Carolyn Maloney, has already introduced NREPA with bi-partisan co-sponsorship.
- There is the Missoula Ecology Center and its hi-tech mapping and appeals onslaught against the Forest Service, invaluable in its efforts to keep the Freddies in line.
- There is also the newly formed Women's Voices for the Earth (WVE) and the old stalwarts at Friends of the Bitterroot, both of whom participate in local efforts to meet with regular people in rural communities and empower them through information, education and support. True grassroots.

I mention these organizations (and there are many like them all over the US and the globe) as positive examples of what environmentalism can be. They are diversified, small and intimate with the land and world they strive to protect. Their hard work is what keeps our slim democracy functioning, especially in these urgent times.

Loggers Eat Endangered Apes

BY GARY RICHARDSON, WSPA REGIONAL DIRECTOR IN KENYA

The World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA) has just completed an extensive investigation in the African rainforests where field agents discovered that Eastern lowland gorillas and chimpanzees are being eaten as "bush meat" to feed French logging work forces.

Smoked monkeys and apes can be seen on display in many Central and West African countries including Cameroon and the Congo Republic. They look like small mummified humans for sale.

Traditional hunting for bush meat has gone on for centuries in limited amounts in order for natives to feed their families. However, foreign logging companies have created a highly inflated demand for additional bush meat. Hunters are now killing the great apes on a commercial basis and selling them to the timber workers.

The family of endangered gorillas, chimpanzees, bonobos (pygmy chimps) are keenly intelligent and live in nurturing, family oriented communities. When hunters track down a family group, they usually target the silverback gorilla or dominant male chimp which makes the rest of the group more vulnerable to attack.

A growing business alliance is forming between hunters and loggers. The hunters now travel on the roads cut into the forest by loggers and are allowed to travel on the logging trucks. Traditionally, a hunter had to trek for days to new hunting grounds, carrying snares, spears, bows and arrows, and only bringing back what they could carry. But now they take lifts on logging vehicles in the early morning, hunt all day, and return in the evening with their day's bush meat which is then sold to the logging camps or transported to the major towns and cities to be sold on special "bush meat" markets.

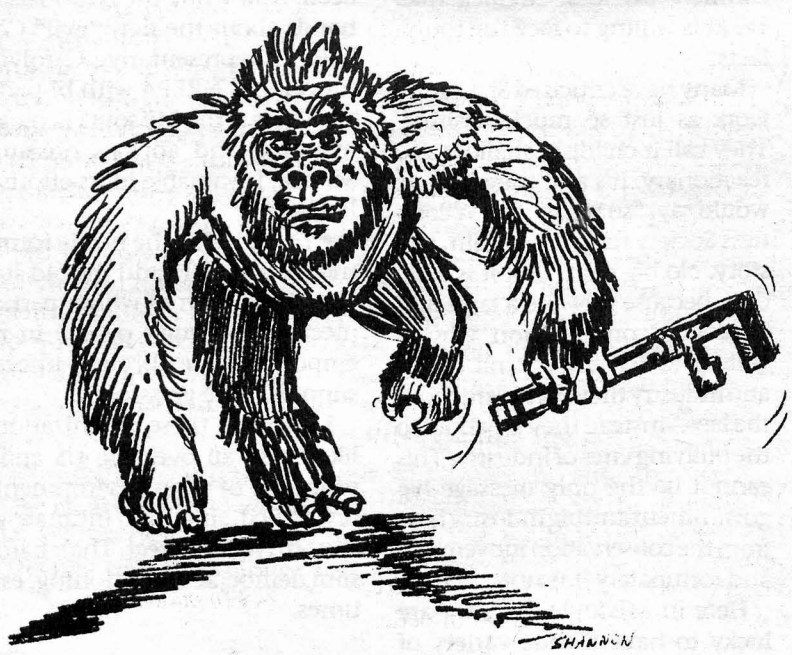
Casualties of the bush meat trade, orphaned chimps are pried from their dead parents and then sold as house pets. The going rate is approximately $60 US. This continues despite the fact that great apes are an internationally recognized endangered species, and therefore illegal to hunt in most countries. For every chimp that survives to be sold, more than 50 will have died or been killed en route. In the Congo Republic alone, up to 600 lowland gorillas and 3,000 chimpanzees are killed for their meat each year.

In many African countries, gorillas and chimps are protected by hunting, firearms and wildlife laws. However, government officials allow the trade to continue because they are understaffed, and in many cases unwilling, to address the problem.

With funding from individual donations, WSPA is launching its EscAPE campaign to reform the treatment of the endangered great apes. WSPA is working to encourage governments to enforce existing hunting laws and police the trade in great ape bush meat and body parts sold as fetishes. It will concentrate initial efforts in countries where WSPA field staff have identified serious problems.

WSPA is planning ways to rescue some of these captive animals and educate people about their inhumane treatment. WSPA is also working to help fund sanctuaries for these animals where they will live in more natural habitats and receive proper food and veterinary care.

In order to successfully wage the EscAPE campaign in Africa, WSPA needs contributions to fund its reform programs. Send whatever support you can to WSPA, EscAPE, 29 Perkins St., PO Box 190, Boston, MA 02130, phone (617) 522-7000, or toll free (800) 883-WSPA, fax (617) 522-7077.



American Environmentalist Murdered in Honduras

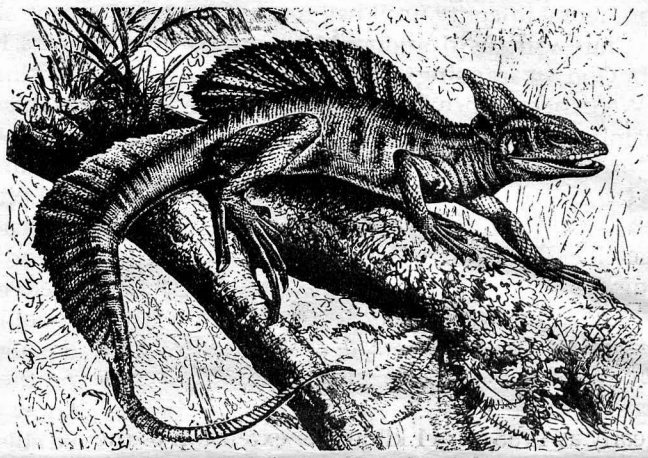
BY ANDY ROWELL

On February 6, 1995, Janeth Kawas was shot twice in the head while reviewing accounts related to the ecological foundation she headed. The Lancetilla, Punta Sal and Texiguat Protection Foundation had recently held a demonstration seeking to prevent the government from allowing farmers and businesses to enter an ecological reserve in the Atlantic coastal city of Tela. The conflict primarily involved the National Farmers Union and agri-businessmen from Hondupalma, which produces African palm oil.

Members of Honduran environmental organizations demand that the government expedite the murder investigation. The groups issued a statement, blaming the murder on "enemies of life and the environment," who saw Kawas as a major obstacle to commercial operations.

According to Elias Romero of the Honduran Association of Environmentalists Journalists, "all factors indicate that Kawas was murdered by powerful groups with whom she disagreed on the exploitation of the Punta Sal Nature Reserve." He added that, "We know that many interests were in play in deciding Kawas' fate. The police say they have clues, but we demand more concrete actions to apprehend the killers of this noble woman."

The police still claim to be close to apprehending one of the two murderers.



Days before her death, Kawas said that both companies hoped to invade 15,000 hectares of the Punta Sal Reserve and later sell the land to foreign investors. Both companies denied the charges as well as any link to the murder.

Members of Fed-Ambiente, a non-governmental environmental organization, have held protest marches in attempt to pressure the government into solving the murder. International organizations from the United Nations and countries such as Canada, Switzerland and the US joined the call for justice with a joint communiqué stating that Kawas' death could not pass unnoticed as, "she died for defending nature, and the guilty parties must be punished." Honduran President Carlos Roberto Reina condemned the crime, calling the murderers "hired assassins," and assuring that they would be brought to justice.

Kawas is the second person in Honduras to be killed for defending the environment in the past two years. The first victim, murdered in 1993, was an agricultural engineer from the Cuero y Salado Foundation.

At press time the murderer(s) had not been arrested and Honduran environmentalists were convening a conference to address the problem. Look for an update in next issue if the situation changes.

FRANCE WANTS A BABY BOOM

The French Social Affairs Minister has introduced legislation designed to increase that country's birth rate. The law would provide generous maternity and baby-sitter subsidies and additional paid holidays for couples (nudge, nudge). By the turn of the century, the government would spend about $3.25 billion on these programs. An adviser to the Social Affairs Minister has flatly stated that, "the goal of this law is to raise the birthrate."

Now, don't get us wrong, we here at the *Journal* are all for paid leave and holidays, but aren't there enough people already in France and Europe, much less the world.

FOREST OF THE DEAD

A "Forest of the Dead" is being planned in the north of England where bodies will be buried under trees to help the soil.

Future corpses will be able to choose their trees on advance and also select the wild flowers that will be on them.

POLLOK FREE STATE:

Roads Resistance Grows in Scotland's Dear Green Place

BY PABLO KALA

Just to the south of Glasgow, amid the woodlands and parklands of Pollok estate, a site of extraordinary resistance has emerged. From the roadside a huge red banner with bright yellow letters proclaims "Pollok Free State," and where the road gives way to a dirt track, amid tall beech trees, one enters a place transformed. Huge carved totems of eagles, ravens, and owls stand as silent sentinels below tree houses. Shingle paths wind past recycling containers, sunflower beds, a small kitchen, and an information centre in the process of construction. A campfire is tended day and night, symbolic of the residents' spirit of resistance. Scattered amid the woodlands are a varied array of tents—the homes of the residents of Pollok Free State. Multi-colored flags flutter in the wind, upon them the message "Save Our Dear Green Place." The dear green place is Glasgow in the Gaelic tongue, and the Free State is the symbol of the resistance to the spectre that is haunting Glasgow—that of the construction of the M77 motorway extension through Pollok Estate. Strathclyde Regional Council and the Scottish Office have awarded £53.5 million of taxpayers money to Wimpey Construction to build the road, ignoring the wishes of a majority of Glasgow residents. The motorway will cut a swathe of concrete and traffic through the city's largest green space. The resistance to this road, whose focus is the Free State, represents Scotland's first anti-motorway ecopolitical conflict.

The Roots of the Conflict

Pollok estate is an area of farm, park, and woodland stretching for 1,118 acres, a few miles south of Glagow's city centre. The parklands, oak and beech woodlands, and the White Cart River provide habitats for a rich variety of wildlife. In 1939 Sir John Maxwell of Pollok, founder of the National Trust for Scotland, bequeathed Pollok estate to the citizens of Glasgow, stating:

The said lands should remain forever as open spaces of woodland for the enhancement of the beauty of the neighborhood and so far as possible for the benefit of the citizens of Glasgow.

As early as 1965, an 11 kilometer extension to the M77 was proposed in the Glasgow Corporation's highway plan to relieve traffic congestion on the A77 road from Glasgow to Ayr. However, it was not until 1974 that the National Trust for Scotland decided to waive the conditions of the 1939 conservation agreement to enable the motorway to be built. Concerted protests against the motorway began in 1978 and involved a variety of concerned community groups.

In 1988 a public enquiry into the motorway issue lasted for three months, and included an array of submissions against the M77. These included opposition from Glasgow District Council, local communities who would be affected by the M77, and various community organizations including Glasgow for People. Despite popular resistance to the motorway, preliminary construction commenced in 1992. A swath was cut through the western side of Pollok estate and the preliminary foundations of the road lain.

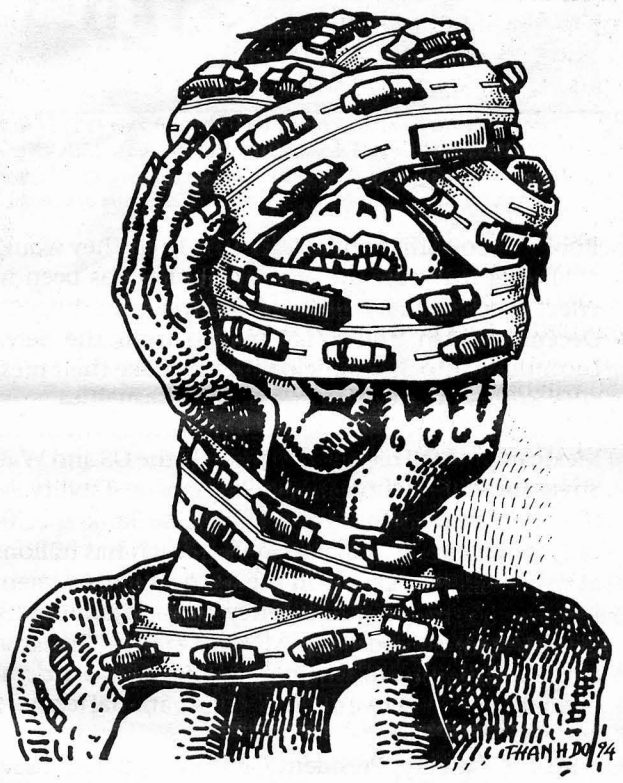
The Branches of the Conflict

The region's Roads Department advanced a variety of justifications for the construction of the motorway extension. They argued that the motorway would: (i) assist economic development; (ii) save travelling time for road users; (iii) reduce road accidents; (iv) reduce road congestion; (v) improve the reliability of the public bus transport system; and (vi) enhance environmental conditions by removing traffic from residential and shopping streets.

However, opponents of the M77—whom include planners, academics, transport consultants, politicians, and environmentalists—cite a plethora of environmental, economic, social and political arguments against the motorway. Environmentally, the road will cause increased noise and air pollution, thereby destroying the tranquillity of the western Pollok estate, and exacerbating health problems such as asthma. The road will destroy Glasgow's largest green space, causing irreparable damage to woodland and wildlife habitats, while also contributing to the process of global warming. At the same time, the motorway will foster increased reliance on car use, thereby exacerbating these environmental problems.

Economically, the motorway will facilitate car commuting, thereby generating increased traffic. An estimated 53,000 vehicles a day would be funneled across the already congested Kingston Bridge in Glasgow, which is at present undergoing repairs due to damage caused by excessive traffic use. The motorway will also draw passengers away from subsidized rail and bus services. The resources that would be used to construct the M77 could be used instead to upgrade existing transport facilities, including freight and passenger rail networks, public bus services, and roads. This, together with the promotion of traffic calming measures, could ameliorate the environmental problems cited earlier.

Socially, the motorway would only benefit car users, and not serve the local communities of Mosspark, Corkerhill, Pollok, Nitshill, Carnwadric, and Kennishead where access to the use of cars is low. Indeed, it has been estimated that up to 75 percent of Glasgow's population do not have access to car transport. In addition, the construction of the road would sever the access of these local communities to the Pollok estate, which is a safe recreational area for children. The road would cut these communities off



from each another and would force school children to play beneath the shadow of a loud, polluting, motorway.

Politically, the construction of the motorway entails the commercial development of a green belt space and the subsequent restriction of public access to the land. As such, this represents part of an ongoing process the enclosure and privatization of public land that has continued in the British Isles since the seventeenth century.

The Branches of Resistance

Although opposition to the motorway dates back to the 1970's, several recent developments saw the resistance coalesce into a more potent force. In the spring of 1994 Glasgow Earth First! was formed, a non-hierarchical group committed to engaging in nonviolent direct action in order to prevent further environmental destruction. The group soon began to focus its energy upon the M77 issue. In April 1994, the Stop the Ayr Road Route (STARR) Alliance was launched, as a merging of various community and environmental organizations pledged to four goals: (i) to have the M77-Ayr Road Route cancelled; (ii) to re-direct financial resources saved from the cancellation into an alternative, environmentally-sensitive transport strategy; (iii) to re-instate the land within Pollok estate to its previous condition as open space and woodland, as enshrined in the 1939 Conservation Agreement; and (iv) to restore all open spaces and buildings blighted by the M77-Ayr Road Route, and give priority to provision of pedestrian and cyclist safety, public transport and park-and-ride facilities.

In June 1994, the Pollok Free State camp was established. The camp has acted as a potent, visible symbol of resistance to the motorway

Like the branches of a tree, the resistance to the motorway spreads in numerous directions. It includes locals, students, travellers, environmentalists, academics, planners, politicians and the unemployed. The resistance heralds from the various communities of Glasgow, from Scotland, England, Australia, New Zealand, Sweden, Germany and the United States.

The resistance has succeeded in generating much favorable local and national press coverage. In a recent newspaper poll of reader's opinions regarding the M77, over 68 percent of the respondents articulated their opposition to the construction of the motorway. Attempts to mobilize this popular opposition have resulted in the collection of the names of 3,000 local people who have pledged to resist the construction of the motorway through direct action. Giving free play to the imagination, all manner of direct actions will be effected to act as a "market force," threatening to impose upon the road builders millions of pounds in extra security costs and delays.

The Roots of Resistance

If the STARR Alliance represents the many branches of the struggle, then the Pollok Free State is the root of the resistance. It is a symbol of defiance and creativity, a tangible, affirmative alternative to the devastation that the M77 threatens to unleash upon Pollok estate. The camp, in Barrhead woods, is situated directly in the projected path of the motorway. Tree houses, carved totems and tents have marked out a colorful, defensible space that stands in stark contrast to the ugly scar of rock and gravel that awaits the road-builder's tarmac.

During the months of July and August, various events were staged at the camp to garner local support for the struggle, including concerts with local musicians, vegan and vegetarian feasts, and family entertainment days. These events culminated on August 20, when the camp declared independence from the United Kingdom. Pollok Free State Passports were issued, on which the declaration of independence was printed. The Free State now has over 1,000 passport-holding citizens and 12 permanent residents, and represents the focal point of the resistance to the motorway.

The camp embodies an attempt to create a positive alternative to the road by drawing upon the skills of the local community and by building an inspirational focal point for resistance and nonviolent direct action should democratic channels fail. In attempting to nurture community empowerment, the resistance has attracted a bricolage of local talents: silversmiths, artists, scaffolders, tree-surgeons, carpenters, musicians, and cooks—who have all contributed their skills to the creation of this alternative. The camp actively experiments with ideas of alternative technology, architecture and eco-art. Through the occupation of the woodlands that are due for felling, and through the naming of this site as a place of affirmation and creativity—as a Free State—the resistance has sought to reclaim the land from the road builders. In doing so, the resistance articulates a refusal for the land to be appropriated for private ends, for the purposes of yet more cars and environmental destruction. The Free State embodies the roots of the resistance, and like the roots of the trees it protects, the resistance will cling to the earth for its sustenance and not be moved.

For further information/solidarity/contributions, contact: Glasgow Earth First!, PO Box 180 Glasgow G4 9AB, Scotland, phone 041-331-2473; or Pollok Free State, Barrhead Road, Glasgow G53 5AE Scotland, phone 0860-728244 (mobile).

Zapatistas, Democracy, Money, Oil, the US and Another Rainforest

BY ORIN LANGELLE

The Zapatista National Liberation Army (EZLN) state in point number thirteen of their Revolutionary Agrarian Law, "Zones of virgin jungle and forest will be preserved. There will be reforestation campaigns in the principal zones."

The Selva Lacandona, one of Mexico's and North America's few remaining tropical rainforests, is currently being enclosed by the Mexican military in their attempt to crush the indigenous uprising in the state of Chiapas. This is an effort to stabilize the Mexican economy for foreign investment, and one of the biggest foreign investors is the United States, with billions at stake.

The Lacandon rainforest is rich in biological diversity. It is the home of many species including jaguars, spider and howler monkeys, harpy eagles and neotropical migratory songbirds. The Selva Lacandona is part of a larger rainforest ecosystem reaching through Guatemala to Belize in Central America. This tropical rainforest ecosystem is the second largest in the Americas, only the Amazon is larger.

Unfortunately, the Selva Lacandona sits atop rich oil fields. On the Rio Usamacinta (Mayan for "river of the sacred monkey"), which forms part of the border of Mexico and Guatemala in the rainforest, plans for a series of hydroelectric dams have been proposed since the 1960's. If completed, these dams would irreversibly damage the Rio Usamacinta watershed and flood dozens of ancient Mayan sites.

On January 1st, 1994, the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) took effect. On that same day, in the Mexican state of Chiapas, the EZLN emerged from the Selva Lacandona and occupied the towns of Ocosingo, Las Margaritas, Altamirano and San Cristobal de las Casas. Municipal buildings were seized, prisoners freed from jails and government shops were opened to the people. The EZLN then issued their Declaration of War from the jungle denouncing NAFTA as a "death sentence" for the indigenous people of Mexico. The roots of this conflict are over 500 years old, starting with the European invasion of this hemisphere.

In Chiapas, international investment, multinational corporations and the Mexican government have led the assault, extracting raw materials ranging from petroleum, corn, hydroelectricity, cattle, coffee and forests. Businesses take the wealth of southern Mexico and send it north to the US, Canada, Germany, Italy and Japan.

In the late 1800's the forest industry began the onslaught by extracting mahogany and tropical cedar from the Lacandon rainforest. Before the 20th century, the Selva Lacandona covered 13,000 square kilometers. Today, two-thirds of that is already gone, leaving only the Montes Azules Biosphere Reserve intact. Deforestation continues with the additional impact of modern forestry practices which slice more roads through the Lacandon.

In the 1950's and 60's the Mexican government looked to its southern extremities as a dumping ground for their unwanted indigenous and peasant populations. Government policies that forced hunger motivated the "unwanted" to clear parts of the rainforest for survival. After tree felling or slash and burn came the planting of corn and beans. Then after a couple of years, when the soil was too depleted for agriculture, the "unwanted" moved deeper into the Lacandon followed by the next cash crop: cattle.

What the Mexican government says is an internal problem is, in actuality, an international crisis. Twelve years ago the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund (IMF), principal architects of Mexico's economic program, promoted deregulation of trade and financial markets. High interest rates were encouraged to attract foreign investment and short-term speculation. Billions of foreign dollars poured in.

Direct, legitimate and participatory democracy is quite a contrast to what is practiced in Mexico today (or for that matter in the US). *PR Watch,* an independent journal that spotlights public relations firms, reported that an estimated $1 billion dollars was spent by the Partido Revolucionario Institucional (PRI) and their wealthy supporters in last August's Mexican elections. This money was not used just to seduce voters, but also to reassure US and other foreign investors that Mexico would remain "favorable" to foreign investment.

Although the PRI proclaimed the victory in last August's election of President Ernesto Zedillo, various other states, including Chiapas, disputed the legitimacy of the presidential and gubernatorial votes. Government appointed election officials and the PRI refused outside observers' requests to compare computer tallies with the actual packets of marked ballots from Mexico's 90,000 voter precincts.

The EZLN warned that if PRI governor Eduardo Robledo took office on December 8, 1994, they would challenge the cease-fire agreement that has been in effect since January 12th of last year. Starting on December 11th, the EZLN moved from the Selva Lacandona into 39 municipalities to make their presence known, then withdrew with no casualties.

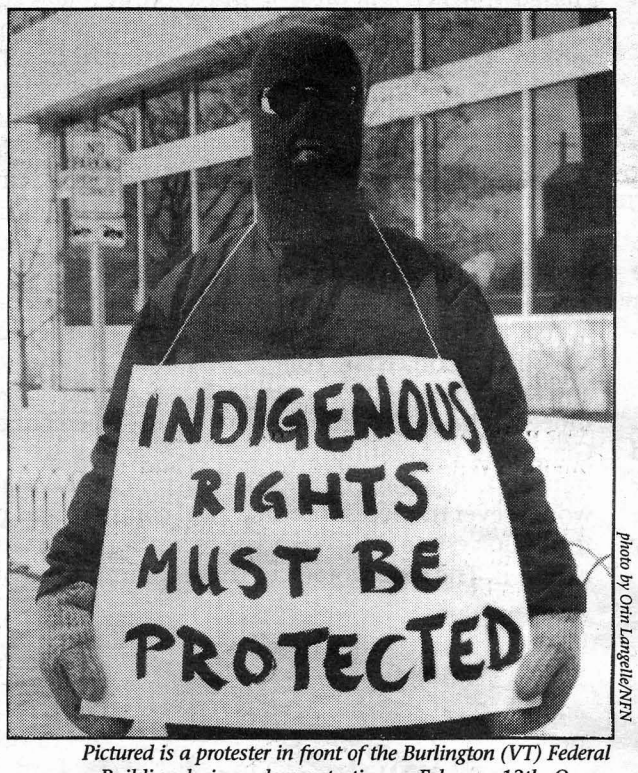


photo by Orin Langelle/NFN

Pictured is a protester in front of the Burlington (VT) Federal Building during a demonstration on February 13th. Over a hundred activists statewide joined in protests against the Mexican government and US involvement in the Mexican state of Chiapas.

A monetary crisis swept through Mexico when the Mexican peso fell recently and clearly the US and Wall Street are worried about Mexico's financial stability. As the Mexican situation worsened, Chase Bank, specifically its Emerging Markets Group, which has billions at risk in Mexico, called on the Mexican government to crush the Zapatista insurgency. Chase's January 13, 1995, "Political Update on Mexico" states, "The government will have to eliminate the Zapatistas to demonstrate their effective control of the national territory and security policy."

Also in January, President Clinton proposed a several billion dollar loan packet to bail out the Mexican economy (and big US investors). This loan packet is guaranteed by Mexico with oil revenues and other stipulations. PEMEX (Mexico's national oil company) declared that the Selva Lacandona covers one of Mexico's richest oil fields.

On February 9, Zedillo ordered the arrest of suspected EZLN "leaders." The Mexican military invaded Chiapas' autonomous regions making war on the population in an attempt to stabilize the financial concerns of foreign investors. Their security is the fundamental purpose of NAFTA and the motivation behind the invasion.

In mid-February the Mexican military followed the Zapatistas into the Selva Lacandona. Fearing reprisals from the approaching military, an estimated 20,000 indigenous peasants followed the EZLN into the Lacandon rainforest. International and domestic human rights groups have reported that Mexican government forces have engaged in illegal searches, arrests, tortures and killings as they carry out President Zedillo's orders to suppress the rebellion. There are reports that the Mexican military has sprayed and chemically poisoned food crops in the area.

On February 21, Clinton approved a $20 billion loan (bailout) to the Mexican government.

Can the Zapatistas protect the rainforest from further exploitation? No one knows for sure, but one thing is certain, the Mexican and US governments have no intention to do so. It is clear that a different approach to solving the Mexican crisis is needed. As Major Moises of the EZLN said to the Mexican Democratic National Convention in October, 1994, "How are you [the Mexican government] going to construct something new, if you do the same old things?"

If the Mexican government continues its military operations and enclosure in the Lacandon, we face the potential genocide of the indigenous people and the eventual ecocide of the rainforest. This is an international outrage and the parties sponsoring this assault should be aware that the whole world is watching and (hopefully) voicing their opposition.

The Native Forest Network is urging people throughout the world to contact President Zedillo of Mexico, President Clinton of the United States, and Chase Bank of New York to demand that the Mexican military pull out of the rainforest, immediately stop the war on the EZLN and respect the rights of indigenous people and legitimate democracy. Please contact the United Nations to express your concerns and to demand that a UN delegation be sent to the area to investigate these environmental and human rights atrocities. Also consider participating in community mobilizations and educational activities that voice these concerns to the people and institutions responsible for this current crisis.

For further information, please contact the Native Forest Network, Eastern North American Resource Center, PO Box 57, Burlington, VT 05402 USA, (802) 863-0571, fax (802) 863-2532, E-mail: peacejustice@igc.apc.org

Addresses:

Ernesto Zedillo, Presidente de la Republica, Palacio Nacional, 06067 Mexico D.F., MEXICO, fax (525) 271-1764.

President Bill Clinton, White House, 1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC, 20500 USA, (202) 456-7639, fax (202) 256-4562, switchboard phone (202) 456-1414.

Charles Ballard, Chase Manhattan Bank, 1 Chase Plaza, 19th floor, NY, NY 10081 USA, phone (800) AT-CHASE, fax (716) 258-6339.

Boutros Boutros Ghali, UN, New York, NY 10017 USA, phone (212) 963-1234.

ADC Activities CANCELED on Seven National Forests

BY TOM SKEELE, PREDATOR PROJECT

The US Forest Service (USFS) is attempting to transfer the environmental review and authorization process for predator control on national forest lands from itself to the Animal Damage Control (ADC) program. Predator Project and three other groups took interest in this after the USFS decided to transfer responsibilities without initiating the required formal notice of proposal and public comment. A long process of appealing to the USFS and the Council on Environmental Quality resulted in no changes, and meanwhile the Animal Damage Control program had illegally authorized their own program on nine national forests.

We had no choice but to sue the two agencies. Our legal action prompted the USFS to initiate a review by publishing notice of the "proposed" transfer, and asking for public comment.

Subsequently, the USFS presented the plaintiff groups with an out-of-court settlement which failed to reverse any of the nine decisions ADC already authorized. We rejected their offer. Shortly thereafter, in November, we received notice that the ADC had withdrawn the authorization for seven of those forests impacted, explaining that the programs on the other two forests were for specific actions which had already been completed. The seven national forests include: Apache-Sitgreaves (AZ); Lincoln (NM); Challis (ID); Sawtooth (ID); Lewis and Clark (MT); Wallowa-Whitman (OR); and Bighorn (WY).

ADC's predator control activities will not be allowed to take place on these seven forests until each forest writes its own environmental assessment, or until the USFS officially and legally transfers its responsibility to ADC, and ADC issues new records of decisions. The USFS is not expecting to make a decision on the transfer until late spring, meaning that coyotes, lions, bears and other predators will be spared ADC's wrath for at least four to six months.

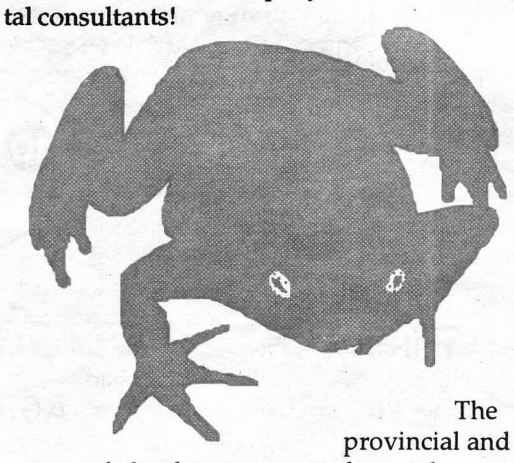
The Nopiming Camp
Defending Wilderness in the Nopiming Forest Bioregion

Our Time of Crisis

By David Nickarz
Earth First! Manitoba

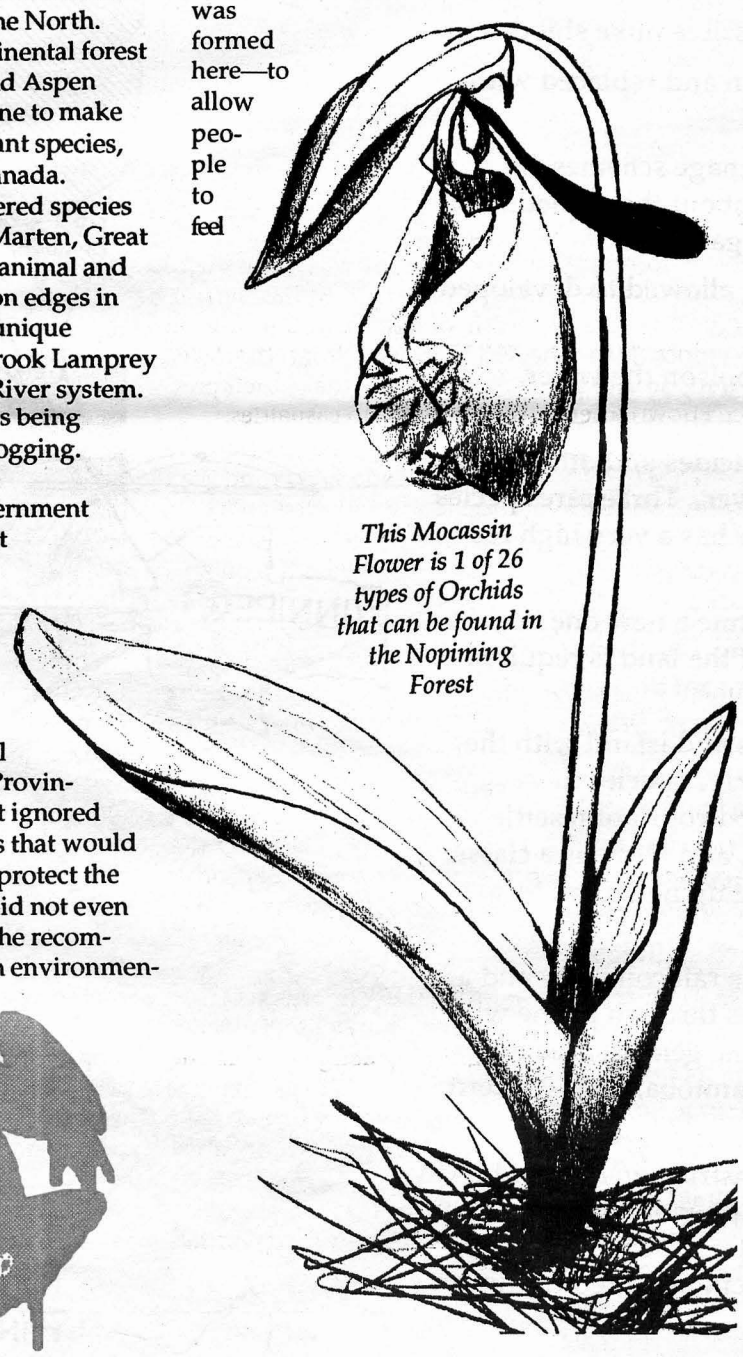
The Nopiming Forest bioregion lies on the Western slope of the Canadian Shield and includes the Western Winnipeg River watershed. It stretches from the uplands of Minnesota to the Wannipigow River in the North. Nopiming is made up of four continental forest types—Boreal, Pine, Deciduous and Aspen Parkland. These ecosytems combine to make unique habitat for some 50 rare plant species, seven of which are rare to all of Canada. Nopiming is also home to endangered species like the Woodland Caribou, Pine Marten, Great Grey Owl and others. All sorts of animal and plant species have their distribution edges in this region. There are even some unique species of fish like the Northern Brook Lamprey that only live in the Whitemouth River system. Nopiming is unique, diverse and is being destoyed primarily by industrial logging.

In May of 1992 the provincial government set in motion a chain of events that made Manitoba the De-forestry capitol of Canada. Abitibi-Price's logging licence was up for review and the government appointed Clean Environment Commission recommended that logging be ended in our Provincial Parks—specifically in Nopiming Provincial Park. The Filmon government ignored this recommmendation and others that would preserve endangered species and protect the Manigotagan River. The licence did not even force the company to implement the recommendations of the company's own environmental consultants!



The provincial and federal governments have taken no drastic action against the mill for chemical spills and the decades of pollution. The governments don't care about deforestation in Manitoba. When laws are broken nothing is done, or the laws are changed to suit industry. In July of 1993 Bill 41 enshrined logging in our Provincial Parks. Provincial Parks are now to 'provide economic opportunities' like logging, mining, and hydro development. The Filmon government has clearly failed to preserve Manitoba's Wilderness.

Born out of this frustration was Earth First! Manitoba. There was a need for a no-compromise, action oriented group willing to draw the line in the forest. The environmental movement in Winnipeg talked too much and acted very little. There are many people in this province who want to take action for Wilderness but had no way of expressing it. This is why an EF! was formed here—to allow people to feel something; joy, anger, despair and rage. To join the planet-wide movement for the Earth and take *action!*



This Mocassin Flower is 1 of 26 types of Orchids that can be found in the Nopiming Forest

Confront the pestilent government officials who sell Wilderness to the first multi-national that knocks on our door. Speak for the Forest with uncompromising advocacy. Put yourself in the path of the industrial monsters ravaging Nopiming in the East, Duck Mountain in the West, Churchill River Belugas in the North and Oak Hammock Marsh in the South. Stop complaining about it and do something!

Plant Life

By Laura Reeves

I stand gazing across a clearing, not 100 meters off of highway 314, that spans hundreds of acres. My heart sinks as my eyes trace a pile of trees that extends the length of a road that seems to have no end. I wonder what this area was like before it was cleared; before the heavy machinery came in and shattered the peace. Though the sight of thousands of fallen trees left to waste is enough to turn many people's stomachs, I wonder what other types of plants were torn from the ground in this ruthless quest for money. I wonder if any of the 82 species of plants that are rare to the Nopiming forest were amongst those devastated.

The Nopiming forest is a truly spectacular place. It is home to nearly 50 percent of Manitoba's vascular plant species. There are 26 types of orchids, including Ladies'-tresses, which sport small flowers in a remarkable spiral arrangement, and the rare Ram's Head orchid - sighted just last year near Bird Lake. Jewelweed, or spotted touch-me-not, is rightfully named. It's leaves, when placed under water, sparkle in the sunlight as though covered with diamonds while the seed pods, when touched, shoot their seeds to land some distance away.

The number of plants that, aside from their entertainment value, are edible and/or medicinal is absolutely astonishing. I stand by the belief that for every affliction encountered in a particular area, there exists a remedy for it. In the Nopiming Forest, Colt's-foot coughdrops will relieve a sore throat. Yarrow will stop or decrease excessive bleeding. Labrador tea, if spread on clothes or in a sleeping area will repel insects. Jewelweed will soothe poison ivy, itchy insect bites and nettle stings. And wild mint and wintergreen make an excellent remedy for menstrual cramps.

The Nopiming Camp will be a place to reestablish our bond with nature. The result of this bond will be a much stronger fight to save what is left of this magnificent place. Please come out to the Nopiming Camp. We want to share this place with you and we need your help so that it will always be there to be shared.

This talboid was produced and edited in a damn hurry by Earth First! Manitoba. We can be contacted at 15-222 Osborne Street south, Winnipeg, Manitoba, Canada, R3L 1Z3.
Phone (204) 453-9052

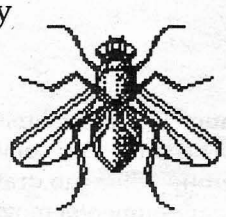
Points of Interest

1. Area of mistletoe management (or deforestation for profit).

2. Jack Pine has been clearcut and unsuccessful planting has led to an experiment with planting Red Pine (see #8).

3. The superb wilderness of the Manigotagan River is being threatened by logging bridges. One such bridge is planned beside and active Bald Eagle nest.

4. Remnant range of Owl Lake Woodland Caribou herd. Although this is now the southern most herd in the mid-continent, and the species is in danger, its numbers have been allowed to dwindle from over 200 in the 1960's to 40 today as logging moved from Lake Winnipeg and invaded further inland. At one time Woodland Caribou ranged deeply into Minnesota.



5. The Winnipeg River, drowned by dams, has the undesirable distinction of being North America's Minamata due to mercury pollution.

6. In addition to encouraging logging, mining and economic development, Manitoba's parks are favourite killing fields for hunters.

7. Site of nuclear research station and possible nuke shit dump.

8. Rare Red Pine forest has been cut down and replaced with Jack Pine plantations (see #2).

9. A large peat mining operation and dranage schemes are killing bogs. Concerns have been raised about the depletion of peat lands and the release of greenhouse gasses.

10. An unknown new gold mine is being allowed to developed in the area.

11. Mine development is threatening to poison the water.

12. A new dump planned for the amalgamation of three municipalities, and including storage of pesticides and other toxic wastes is threatening the Whitemouth River. Three rare species of fish are found in the river and the river has a very high recreational and wildlife value.

13. A logging road will be abandoned while a new one is built a short distance away. No rehabilitation of the land is required to date.

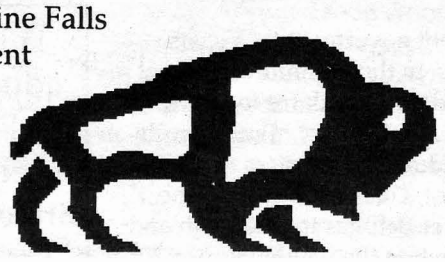
14. Hecla Island Provincial Park includes and island with the Northwestern most stand of Red Pine, a rare species in Mantioba. Many outstanding claims of expropriation settlements with previous landowners remain, and Hecla is a classic example of bureaucratic bungling fouling up new park formation.

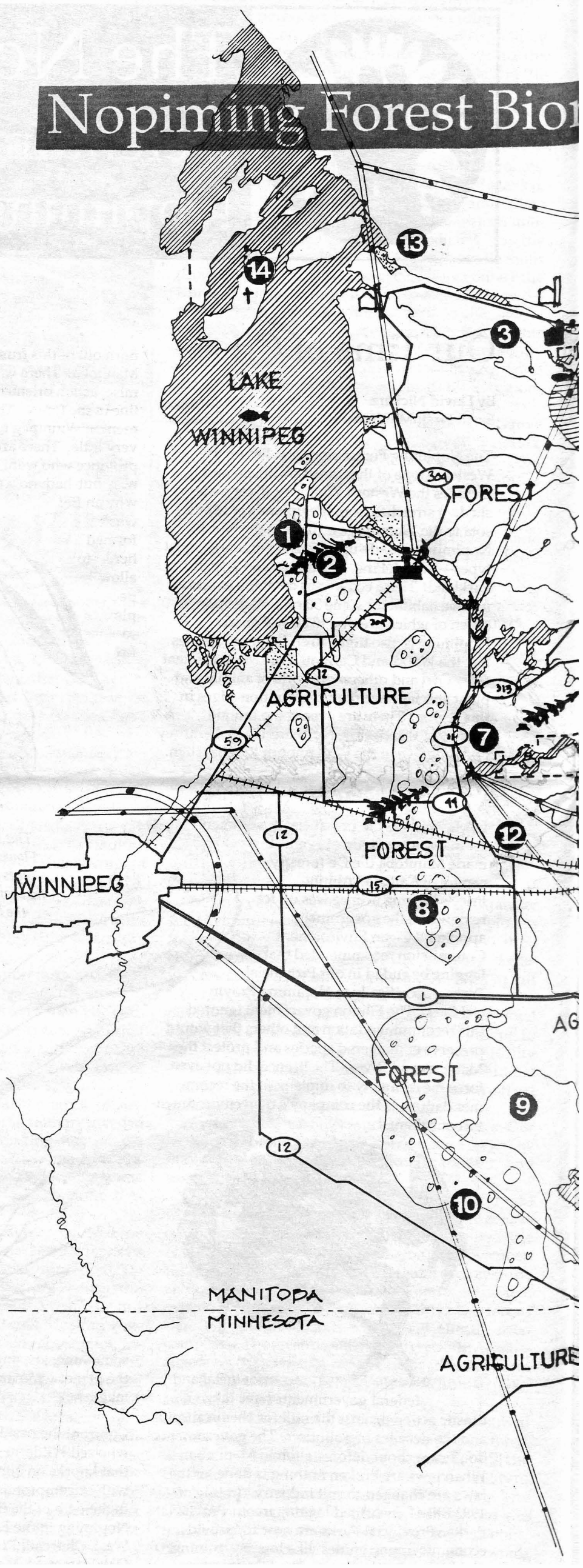
15. Cottagers are being abandoned by the rail company and are building an access road to their properties through prime wilderness area populated by rare plants. The general area holds the only rare White Pine specimens in Manitoba, their western limit of distribution.

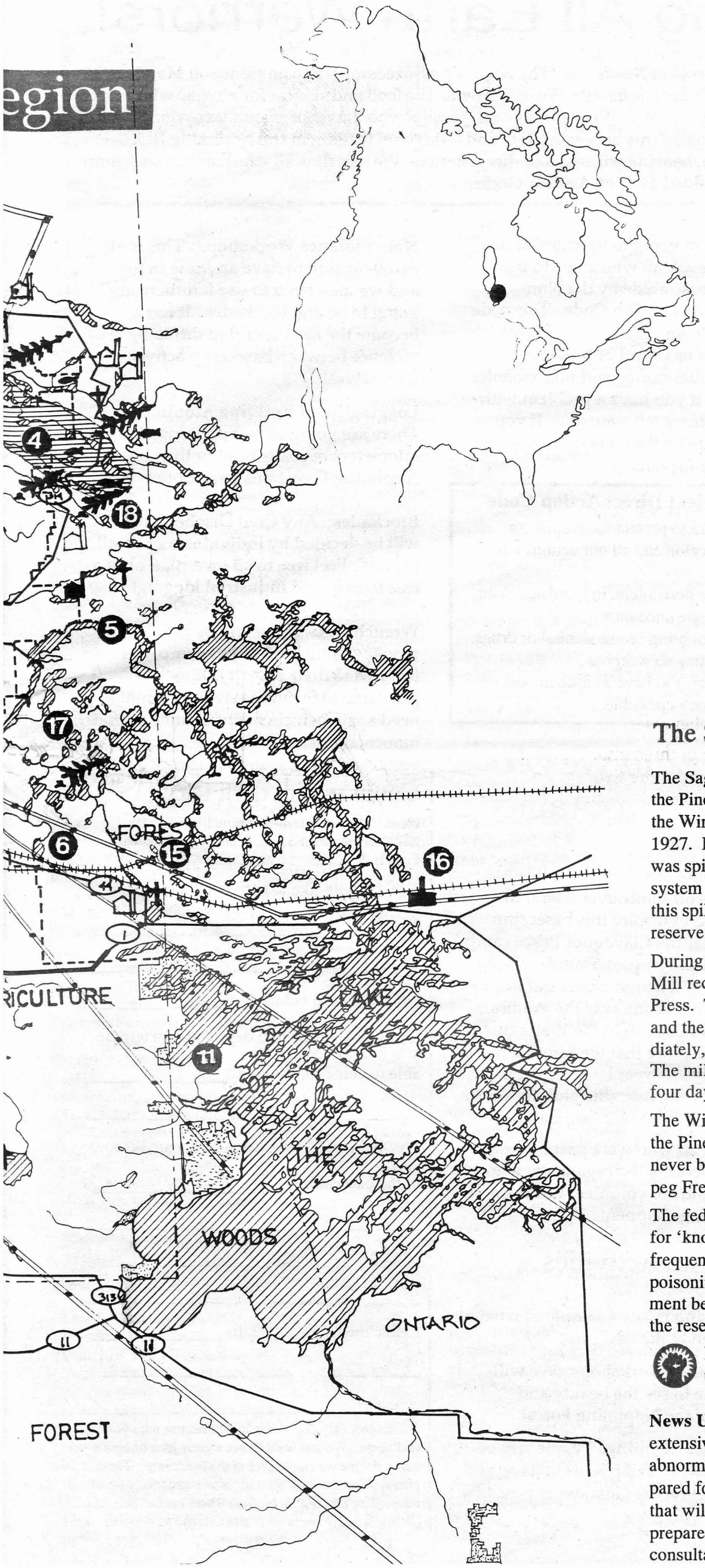
16. Tolko Inc. is searching for land to construct an oriented strand board factory although it will use phenol formaldehyde resin for its glue (not methyl di-isocyanate) the chemicals are not benign and the Nopiming Forest is being scoured for timber to cut.

17. Pond in the Provincial Parks are being dammed and modified by licenced minnow farmers who sell live minnows for bait.

18. Chevrifil sawmill north of Pine Falls needed a buyer so the government quietly set aside additional logging areas in Nopiming Provincial Park despite strongly expressed public opinion that parks must be protected.







LEGEND

- MAJOR ROADS
- DAM
- MAJOR RIVERS & LAKES
- REMAING CARIBOU RANGE
- INACTIVE MINE
- ACTIVE MINE
- PULP MILL
- FIRST NATIONS
- GLACIAL MORAINES ALONG NOPIMING FOREST WEST EDGE
- MEANINGLESS PARK BOUNDARY
- TURF BOUNDARIES
- SOME AREAS OF KNOWN LOGGING
- OVERFISHING
- MAJOR HYDRO TRANSMISSION CORRIDOR
- † A FEW KNOWN SITES OF RARE PLANTS.
- RAILWAY

The Sagkiing First Nation

The Sagkiing First Nation is located immediately down stream from the Pine Falls Paper Mill. This mill has been dumping effluent into the Winnipeg River, the source of Sagkiing's drinking water, since 1927. In March of 1994 over 800 kg's of Busan-52, a toxic biocide, was spilled inside the mill. It was allowed to drain into their sewage system and directly into the Winnipeg River. The mill did not report this spill for four days. As a result, many people from the Sagkiing reserve were sent to hospital.

During the four days of secrecy after the spill, the Pine Falls Paper Mill received some favorable media coverage from the Winnipeg Free Press. The mill was about to be bought out by the mill management and the workers. If the mill management had reported the spill immediately, the press would not have been substantially less favorable. The mill management allowed thousands of people drink poison for four days so that the buyout could be smoother.

The Winnipeg Free Press prints its daily newspaper on newsprint from the Pine Falls mill. This is clearly a conflict of interest which has never been mentioned in the mainstream media, let alone the Winnipeg Free Press.

The federal government recently fined the Pine Falls Paper Company for 'knowingly releasing a deleterious substance into a waterway frequented by fish'. The fine was $50,000 with not one mention of poisoning people. The mill management was pleased with the settlement because they had spent over $150,000 trucking drinking water to the reserve after the spill.

Earth First! Manitoba will be honored to support any uprising by the Sagkiing First Nation.

News Update: Despite Federal Fisheries & Oceans research showing extensive pollution by the Pine Falls Mill causing, among other things, abnormalities in the remaining fish, an environmental statement prepared for an upcoming environmental 'assessment' is reported to state that wildlife is abundant and the mill is clean. This greenwashing was prepared by Beak Consultants, a popular pulp & paper 'environmental' consultant.

Calling All Earth Warriors!

The Nopiming Bioregion Needs you! The Nopiming Basecamp will commence on May 1, 1995 and will last for at least one month. We will provide the food and shelter for anyone who wants to come out to the camp. We welcome all people who have previous experience with basecamps. The goal of this basecamp is to end industrial logging in the Nopiming Bioregion through education, bearing witness and direct action. We ask that all who come to the camp follow the **Nonviolent Direct Action Code**.

Here's How You Can Help

The Goal of the Nopiming Camp is to end industrial logging from the Nopiming Forest Bioregion through education, bearing witness and direct action. If you can come to the camp, great, but there are people who may not be able to take the time. If you are one of those people and you want to help with this campaign then please donate any or all of the following;

Nopiming Camp Wish List

Donation/use of a Van or Bus
Trailer
Repair Services
First aid kit and related materials
Dried bulk food;
(no animal products please)
Cooking oil, flour, sugar, spices
Fresh fruit and vegetables
Use of a food dehydrator
Large cooking pots
Cooking utensils
Tree free paper
Miscellaneous radio equipment
10 channel scanner
Legal services and advice
Portable fire pit with grill
Tarps and camouflage netting
All kinds of rope and miles of it!
Hammocks, blankets, sleeping bags
Candles, candle lanterns, matches
Biodegradable soap
Cold, hard cash!

How to get there from here...

If you are hitchin' in or riding the rails you will want to get to Winnipeg, Manitoba. Rides to the camp from Winnipeg will be available at least two times a week. Once in Winnipeg you may enjoy some of the lovely street corners to sleep on until you arrive at the camp. Please phone (204) 453-9052 once you arrive in our lovely city to find out when you can get a ride.

Special thanks goes out to **People Acting for Animal Liberation** (PAaL) for letting us use their office for a mailing address, storage for stuff, phone calls, helpful insights, a place to have meetings, and on and on. . .

Yes, there are going to be 'rules' at this camp. We ask all who come to the camp to please abide by the **Non-Violent Direct Action Code**. This code was not thrown together overnight! This code is based off of previous environmental camps and non-violence resources. If you have a problem with the code, please tell someone. If you cannot abide by the code then this camp is not for you!

Nonviolent Direct Action Code

- We are here to protect the Nopiming Forest Bioregion and all our actions will reflect this.
- We will be nonviolent, in word and deed, to everyone we encounter.
- We will not bring or use alcohol or drugs.
- We will carry no weapons.
- We will strive to have as little impact on the landscape as possible.

Where did we get such a hair-brained scheme?

Two places on Vancouver Island in 1993 helped to inspire this basecamp. The first was the Clayoquot Peace camp (**Friends of Clayoquot Sound**) which was the largest action of its kind in Canada. The second was the Walbran camp (**Terra Prima!**) in the Walbran Valley. The place that we camped in was preserved a year later. Several other camps in Austrailia and the USA also inspired the Nopiming Camp.

Thank you all who were part of these camps, especially the organizers who put thousands of volunteer hours into making things happen!

Basecamp Activities

The following is just a sample of what will happen at the basecmp,

Nature Walks/Workshops: We will take people to see the beauty and diversity of the Nopiming Forest.

Low Impact Camping: People will be shown a way to camp so as to have as little impact on the lanscape as possible.

Non-Violence Workshops: This is an excellent skill to have anytime in life and we may need to use it if there are going to be any blockades. It has become the *most* useful in diffusing violence between basecamp activists themselves!

Logging/Road Building Monitoring: There are going to be hundreds of kilometers of roads built in the Nopiming Forest this year alone!

Blockades: Any Civil Disobedience will be decided by individuals or small groups. Feel free to sit on a road or in a tree to help end industrial logging!

Wrenching?: There will be no monkeywrenching at this camp, but feel free to do it any other time! L-P just came to Swan River--they might need some vehicle maintainance or tree innoculations. . .

Count me in, darn it!*

Please fill out this form and send it to EF! MB, 15-222 Osborne Street South, Winnipeg, Mantioba, Canada, R3L 1Z3.

Yes, I would like to come to the camp!

Name_____

Phone Number_____

Do you have a vehicle?_____

Can you give specific days that you will be able to come to the camp?_____

_____

I have the following items to donate/borrow to the basecamp_____

_____

_____

_____

I have the following skills_____

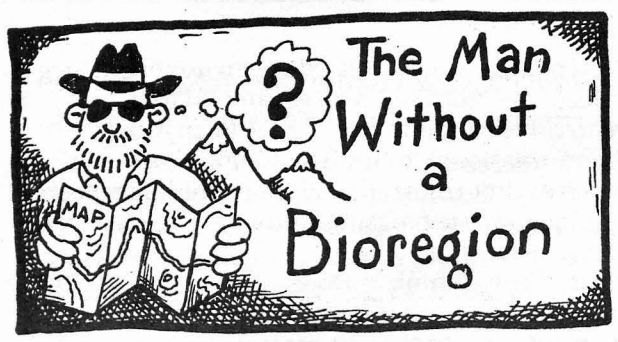
_____

_____

*You obviously don't have to fill this out with your real name. We just want to get a good idea of how many people we can expect at the basecamp. The phrase "Count me in, darn it!" was respectfully adopted by EF! Manitoba from Terra Prima!. (Where's funky pants? - Bear Hug)

The Brower Hour

At the Oregon Country Law Fair



They're at it again! Those pesky national environmental organizations, eager for compromise and acceptance in the halls of power are growing fat and lazy on their bloated budgets and undermining the grassroots at every turn. So what else is new, you ask? I'll tell you what's new! The new twist is this (and I know its true because I learned it in a workshop): the oil companies are behind it!

That's right, the same people who brought you the Gulf War and the Kennedy assassination are evidently working through the Rockafella Foundation, and have given the leaders of the Washington based environmental groups marching orders so they can get the grassroots out of the way in order to advance their evil agenda. Right. Excuooose me, but this sounds a little like Ron Arnold's theory that all environmental groups are working for the World Wildlife Fund and getting their funding from Prince Philip. Couldn't some of these beltway ecocrats just be stupid, inept and cowardly?

It shouldn't be news that the "nationals" are the way they are. Any Earth First!er knows this, of course. As dire as it now seems, as all the wimps duck for cover under the onslaught of Newt's Contract With the Devil, things have actually always been this bad. And what do we do when things are bad? We organize, of course, just as we always have. As my dear old mother was fond of saying, "Don't worry Mikey, nothing will be OK."

* * *

Anyway, Kristin, Landi, Big Tom Fullum and I got Krielick's car running and drove out to the Oregon Country Law Fair [Environmental Land Air Water Conference held annually in Eugene, OR) to drink beer and see some old friends. Tom and I had just recently gotten out of court in Grangeville, Idaho, having been the first to be arrested under Idaho's new felony-Earth-First!-conspiracy law during a protest at the entrance to the Noble Creek Road in the Cove/Mallard area. We were somewhat disappointed that the Idaho County prosecutor, Jeff Payne, had made such a mess of our case, and that we were in the unfortunate position of having had all of our charges dropped. The prosecutor had failed to prove that Tom and I conspired with each other, and Judge Michael Griffin dismissed both the conspiracy charge and the obstruction charge.

Thinking back on this, we knew it was our fault. Tom and I had actually forgotten to conspire. It came down something like this. I called Tom on the phone. "Hi Tom, what's going on?"

"Nothing much, Mike, they're logging in Cove/Mallard. I think I'm willing to risk arrest, how about you?"

"Yeah, Tom, me too."

After that we went up to the road in different vehicles on different days. Jake and I did stop in the Nez Perce Supervisors office on our way to Dixie to tell Supervisor Mike King we were going to block the road, and we did stop in to have a nice chat about civil disobedience with Red River District Ranger Ed (Dead) Wood and tell him we were going to block the road, and, of course, we told the cops. What's the point of breaking a law if there are no cops around to see?

As it came up in court the problem was this: it's OK to conspire with people who don't end up breaking the law. Calling the media, telling the cops and Freddies is legal. But in order to be guilty of conspiracy, I would have had to call Tom and said, "Tom, would you like to join me in halting, impeding, or obstructing a lawful timber harvesting, reforesting or management activity and cause harm to the operator and thereby deprive said operator of his rights guaranteed by law?"

Tom would simply have to reply, "Yes, of course I would like to join you in the commission of the above mentioned illegal acts." It's getting to where you need a friggin' lawyer to break a simple law.

So because of this, Tom and I were not to be going to the Oregon Country Law Fair as heroes under indictment, persecuted by the timber barons and oil tycoons, betrayed by The Wilderness Society and the other dupes of the Pew Foundation, in an attempt to lop off the head of the leadership of the Northern Rockies environmental movement. Instead, we would just be two more lowbaggers who hadn't paid their registration fees.

* * *

Conferences like the Oregon Country Law Fair are good places to meet people and learn about other issues. When they are bad, they can really suck. When they are good, it gives you a new attitude about your work. I've learned long ago that you can't size up a conference by what you may have gotten out of it. Others may have had more success. I'm getting old and cynical so I usually confine myself to the hallways, taverns and cafes. This is at Dave Brower's advice, which is usually good advice, and because of that I refer to the time between the last boring speech and last call as the Brower Hour. It is sometimes necessary to sleep through the morning workshops in order to be alert for this critical time.

I was thumbing through an old Sierra Club handbook published in 1971 called *Ecotactics*. Strangely enough, it had a whole chapter on conferences. What they said in the chapter is not to worry about getting high-profile speakers at your conferences, because they rarely tailor the message to their audiences or interact with them. They argued for attracting grassroots organizers who are interested in working with the people attending and getting something done. When I see a bunch of people sitting in a room listening to some self-important speaker going on and on about subjects like deep ecology, sustainable forestry, and how bad the national groups are, I can't help but thinking, "Gee, with all these people here we should be talking about doing something."

I think some good work did get done at the Oregon Country Law Fair, thanks to those hardworking grassroots organizers who just don't miss an opportunity to get something done. I guess that's why even though I often find them very frustrating, I still go. It's usually worth it just for the Brower Hour alone.

—Mike Roselle

Death of the World

BY Anne Herbert

Sometimes it comes in a dream, and sometimes in one more newspaper headline. And then you know. With your cells and past and future you know. It's over. We are killing it all and soon it all will be dead. We are here at the death of the world—killers, witnesses and those who will die. How then shall we live?

Probably good to tell the truth as much as possible. Truth is generally appreciated by terminal patients and we all are.

Good to avoid shoddy activities. You are doing some of the last things done by beings on this planet. Generosity and beauty and basicness might be good ways to go. Avoid that which is self-serving in a small way. Keep in mind standing in for ancestors including people who lived ten thousand years ago and also fishes. Might be best to do activities that would make some ancestors feel honored to be part of bringing you here. Silent statement to predecessors: Well, yeah, we blew the big thing by killing ourselves. I tried to honor you as much as I could in that context by doing the following:_____.

Transform your own power-over behavior to whatever extent possible. Life system of world being efficiently killed by human habit of going for power over. Tasteful to try to profoundly correct that to extent that you can even though it's too late, e.g., men profoundly understand and change around relations with women; white people profoundly change in relations to people of color; humans profoundly change in relationship to other beings on planet. This constitutes thank you note and note of apology to the whole history of the planet. I mean it has been rather great: sunsets, oceans, some art, some moments between beings, smells of fresh mornings. As we kill all by dominance habits too huge to stop, we can thank it for the good times and say sorry by changing our participation in the stuff in some profound way. Doing this kind of change will involve confusion, embarrassment and awareness of activities and attitudes you have not been conscious of doing this kind of change will involve increased aliveness for you personally, a fine thing to bring to a dying planet.

Be in radical alignment with particular forms of aliveness being smashed. Particular species, human cultures, styles of living are being obliterated brutally now. In as much as we all going to die fairly soon, the stylish thing to do is to align with one of the lifeforms and help it be itself as long and strong as possible.

Eschew blandness. Eschew causing others pain. We are all the target so wear bright colors and dance with those you love. Falling in love has always been a bit too much to apply to one person. Falling in love is appropriate for now, to love all these things which are about to leave. The rocks are watching, and the squirrels and the stars and the tired people in the street. If you love them, let them know, with grace and non-invasive extravagance. Care about the beings you care about in gorgeous and surprising ways. Color outside the lines. Practice random kindness and senseless acts of beauty. This is your last chance.

Reprinted from the Spring, 1995, Whole Earth Review. Subscriptions are $20 a year; 27 Gate Five Road, Sausalito, CA 94965.

Dear Miss Demeanor

—Advice for the Ecologically Confused—

Dear Miss Demeanor:

I am in love with a beautiful anarchist from Texas, but she is living so far away that the only way we can communicate is by using this fucking earth destroying shit E-mail to satisfy our lustful desires. She offered to fly up here to Utah to visit me, but the thought of all that fossil fuel sludge being dumped into the air... You know how it is. Hell, we can't even do it without a piece of plastic separrating our natural bodily fluids. I don't know what to do. Maybe you can help me resolve my dilemma of wanting a real, natural life experience and living in today's clusterfuck. Should I just get an AIDS test and hunt and gather my way to Austin?

—Depressed in Salt Lake City

Dear Depressed:

A natural life experience is just not to be found in either Salt Lake City or Austin. You both need to relocate to a rural hamlet, where you will no doubt find sex using condoms to be a good deal more satisfying than fondling a keyboard.

Montana Legislature Revels in Orgy of Destruction

Unpleasant News from the Pig Sty Country

BY JAMES BARNES

In keeping with the spirit of gleeful bullying emanating from Washington these days, our very own Republican state representatives here in Montana have decided that they ain't about to be outdone by any pointy-headed city folks from Back East. They've decided that the environment is in the way of business, and clearly it has to go.

Essentially, their legislation will affect three different areas of Montana law and will impact the environment in various ways, all of them bad. Here are some examples:

State Lands

First off, Roger De Bruyker of Floweree tried to sell off just about all of Montana's state lands to the highest bidder. That bill, at least, failed. In contrast, Tom Keating of Billings tried to get the US government to *give* the state all 10 million acres of Federal land in Montana, but I guess even the Feds weren't that dumb. That one died too.

HB 201, Passed by the House: One of the nastiest bills, this one's known affectionately as "Clearcuts for Kids." Alvin Ellis of Red Lodge figures to double the timber cut on state lands (proceeds go to public schools) to 50 million board feet annually (up from 18-30 mmbf). A later "independent" study is supposed to come up with a less arbitrary level, but Alvin didn't put no funding for it in his bill. Go figure.

HB 263, Passed by the House: This little beauty, by Mr. Curtiss of Fortine, will make sure that from now on the management of state lands won't be cluttered up by consideration of wildlife. It mandates immediate maximization of income: log it, mine it and then dump trash on it is the formula, I believe.

HB 274, Passed by the House: Doug Wagner of Hungry Horse don't think that any of them *laws* oughtta apply when there's bugs or fire in the forest, so this bill exempts from the Montana Environmental Policy Act (MEPA). And for the benefit of Plum Creek Timber, the Department of State Lands (DSL) may advertise bids on some sales, but won't have to at all for those of less than a million board feet.

Regulations and Policies

HB 411, Passed by the House: Introduced by Representative Orr of Libby, it forbids the state from reviewing wetlands development permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers. If you know the Corps' history, that oughtta thrill you.

SB 330, Passed by the Senate: Under Montana water quality law, "high quality" waters may not be degraded. However, Senator Swysgood of Dillon has the solution: limit "high quality" designation to Wilderness areas and municipal watersheds, which aren't likely to be developed anyway. It's open season on the rest.

SB 331, Passed by the Senate: Senator Beck of Deer Lodge has introduced this companion bill to SB 330 that, by ignoring toxics leaching from sediment, will leave Montana with one of the lowest water quality standards for metals in the nation. In addition, the only citizens with standing to sue over water quality will be adjacent landowners, not poison-recipients downstream. Finally, this bill relaxes Montana arsenic standards by a thousand-fold—to 1:100,000 parts per million.

HB 412, Passed by the House: Another salvo from our friend Mr. Orr, this bill makes it so that if you're a polluter who's violated an environmental regulation, you (not the state) evaluate the problem.If you get around to it, that is, but don't worry you don't have to come back into compliance or anything.

HB 440, Before House Appropriations Committee: Here's a good one. Representative Hayne of Dupuyer ain't gonna mess around. This bill repeals all state water and air quality and solid waste programs. If the Feds like the environment so much, let them come and clean it up.

HB 543, Passed by the House: This, I think, is Doug Wagner's finest piece. If it becomes law, this bill would force any citizen who files suit to enforce an environmental law to post a bond equal to the cost of wages lost from any injunctive work stoppage. In other words, you have to pay to make people stop breaking the law. Of course, if this were applied universally, it might not be such a bad idea...

SB 288, Passed by the Senate: Tom Keating's had more luck with this one so far. It makes compliance with MEPA voluntary for state agencies. Pretty good humor.

Economic Impacts/Property Rights

HB 311, Passed by the House: Representative Grinde of Lewistown says that state agencies can't do nothing without assessing everybody's private property rights first.

HB 338, Passed by the House: Representative Grimes of Clancy says mining companies don't have to reclaim worked-out, open pit mine sites if they really don't want to.

HB 473, Passed by House: This one's a little confusing. I thought we didn't like all them tofu-sucking Californians moving here, sending up property taxes, driving Range Rovers, wearing gore-tex, and telling us how to run things. Representative Knox of Winifred, though, has introduced a bill that waives environmental assessments for subdivisions and restricts who can appeal permits (i.e., you can't). I guess money's thicker than bigotry.

SB 231, Passed by Senate: And last but not least, Senator Mesaros of Cascade has given us a nice, straight-forward takings bill that amends MEPA to require a private property analysis for each EA or EIS, and then provides compensation for any property "taken."

It's all pretty sordid, I guess, and I expect some of y'all out there may be experiencing similar dreck from your own lawmakers. One thing that might get interesting as these laws get applied and challenged is that Montana has a constitutional guarantee of a "clean and healthy environment." I suppose we'll find out whether our constitution is worth the paper it's printed on. If you want more information on the assault on Montana's environment, call up the Alliance for the Wild Rockies at (406) 721-5420.

As for "what you can do:" probably not much. These guys are going to do what they want, and it's going to be up to us to stop the resulting atrocities physically. The time for lobbying and lawyering is over. Meanwhile you could write Governor Marc Racicot at the State Capitol, Helena, MT 59620 or call him up at (406) 444-3111 and tell him you're not going to take your luxury ski and trophy-hunting vacation here if the water's going to be all poisoned, the trees all cut down and the land dug up. If you are a Montana resident, tell him to veto these damn bills or, failing that, to go—well, never mind.

Alaskan Native Claims Bill to Raid Public Forests

Alaska's Republican Senator Frank Murkowski is poised to re-introduce to Congress a new Alaska Native land claims bill that would be an economic, environmental, and cultural disaster for all users and communities on the Tongass National Forest (NF). Murkowski's bill is not aimed at bringing justice to Alaska Natives; it is really a raid on public lands, and a grave injustice to all concerned.

The bill would jeopardize long-term economic stability, sacrifice historical subsistence uses, destroy some of the richest wildlife habitat areas and commercial fishing watersheds, and ruin community recreation areas dear to the hearts of Southeast Alaskans—including areas that Congress permanently protected just four years ago in the Tongass Timber Reform Act—all to create a short-term bonanza for the Ketchikan Pulp company and other private timber corporations.

The Tongass Timber Reform Act passed the Senate by a vote of 99-0 and the House by 356-60. It gave "permanent" protection to key roadless areas and was widely supported by Southeast Alaskans. Now, Murkowski's bill would cut those areas, gutting the Act.

Murkowski's bill would:

•Create five new Native village corporations in the towns of Ketchikan, Wrangell, Petersburg, Haines and Tenakee. These communities did not meet criteria established by Congress for the formation of village corporations under the 1971 Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA).

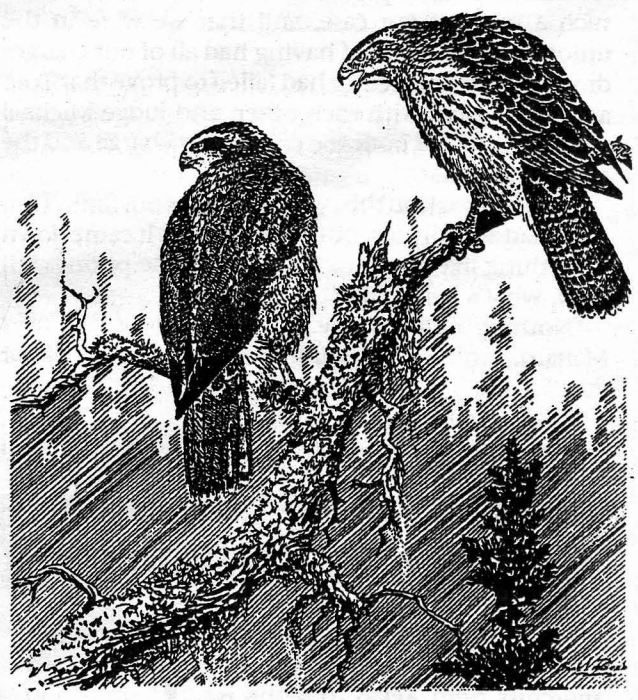
•Give the new corporations the right to select a total of around 645,000 acres from the Tongass NF. Currently, the Native corporations in the Southeast have combined holdings of around 550,000 acres. The new selections would more than double current private corporate holdings.

•Limit new corporate land selections to areas of the Tongass currently managed as off-limits to logging by the Forest Service—including those roadless areas permanently set aside for their habitat, subsistence, fishing and hunting values in the Tongass Timber Reform Act. The new private timberlands would not be subject to sustained yield requirements, and all timber would be sold to the Ketchikan Pulp Company (over and above that provided to KPC under its 50 year contract) or another Alaska mill. The selection of these lands have nothing to do with traditional use or cultural ties; they have to do with logging.

•Allow new Native corporations from one end of the Tongass to select lands on the other end—including areas traditionally belonging to other Native groups. Areas that are traditionally used for hunting and fishing by a local Native community could be extensively clearcut by Native corporations with no traditional ties to the selected land.

•Guarantee road access to selected timberlands—even across Wilderness areas—and exempt access roads from public review under the National Environmental Policy Act.

If history is any guide, selected lands will be extensively clearcut within 20 years. This will create another boom and bust timber cycle while at the same time devastating those areas most important to Southeast Alaskans—both native and non-native.



The Queen Charlotte goshawk, one endangered resident of the Tongass

What you can do: write or fax Senator Frank Murkowski, Chairman, Energy and Natural Resources Committee, US Senate, Washington, DC 20510, fax (202) 224-5301 and Governor Tony Knowles, State Capitol, Juneau, AK 99811-0001, fax (907) 465-3332.

—SOUTHEAST ALASKA CONSERVATION COUNCIL

THE ONLY WAY TO SAVE AMERICA'S FORESTS: *TAKE BACK CONGRESS*

BY SAVE AMERICA'S FORESTS STAFF KATE KONSCHNIK, CARL ROSS, JULIA SWANEY, AND MARK WINSTEIN

Newt's House of Representatives has already passed sweeping anti-environmental legislation which will cripple our existing environmental laws. Now, racing along at breakneck speed is a batch of proposals aimed straight at our national forests, including the "Forest Health" legislation of Senator Larry Craig and Representative Charles Taylor.

The Taylor "Death to the Forests" Rider

Previous US Congresses have sold most of our public forests to the timber companies, and made us pay the Forest Service billions of our tax dollars to do it. They refused to pass bills to protect the last ancient forests, Headwaters, and the northern Rockies. And they still weren't logging fast enough for the timber industry. Now the Taylor rider and other measures have timber corporations smiling.

On March 15, 1995, the US House of Representatives voted overwhelmingly to give its timber industry bosses a big fat present. The Taylor "forest health"/salvage rider, which mandates that six billion board feet of timber be cut on our national forests, over and above forest plan figures, was attached to a rescission package. This rider overrides all environmental legislation, and would limit citizens' rights to appeal. It was approved 275 to 150. That's a lot of congresspeople against forests.

The bill will go to the Senate, and if they pass it, which is likely, it will go before the President. If he signs it, six billion board feet are going down, and there will be no legal way to stop it.

Big logging companies and their representatives in Congress have leveraged the rider through by using the time tested "forest health-salvage" hoax. They were able to turn the definition of healthy, naturally biodiverse old-growth forests on its head, preaching that zones of old, diseased, burned and dying forests can only be "cured" by timber industry logging. They would have unknowing members of Congress and the public at large believe that we can only "save" forests by decimating them.

Saving Forests in Congress—The Offense and the Defense

In the next two years, we will often find ourselves fighting *defensive* battles, digging in our heels to stop the anti-environmental deluge. The anti-environmental Republicans are on the attack with entirely new proposals to take away protections we already have. A collection of proposals cooked up by the pro-industry forces are designed to make enforcement of environmental laws too cumbersome or expensive to be practical or even possible. For example:

"**Takings**" legislation would force the government to pay money to private citizens or corporations for hypothetical profit they could have made, were there no environmental, health and safety regulations to restrict their commercial activities. This could cost billions of dollars which the Republicans are certainly not going to spend, preventing enforcement of the Endangered Species Act or other environmental protection laws on private lands.

"**Cost-Benefit**" analysis would direct the government to weigh the short-term economic cost of legislation to clean up toxic pollution caused by industry. This would undoubtedly pit financial interests against every citizen's health and safety.

"**Unfunded mandates**" would make the federal government pay states for the costs of any federal regulations which the states would have to carry out. The Republican Congress would refuse to dole out clean-up grants to states. Therefore, federal environmental clean-up regulations, the backbone of the environmental progress which our industrial nation achieved in the last 40 years, would be worthless.

Finally, the Republicans want "**tort reform**," which would make it difficult or impossible for citizens to sue or receive damages from corporate malfeasance or lawbreaking which has caused pollution or injury.

There is proposed language in the FY 95 Recision bill which would defund enforcement of the ESA.

All of these proposals seem to have a chance at passing, and President Clinton has sent mixed signals about his intentions to veto any of these measures. The passage of any or all of these pieces of legislation will jeopardize all of our existing environmental protection.

We have to also fight the *wholesale giveaway or sell-off of our public lands*! Some western state Republicans are proposing to turn over federal land to the states. These state governments are even more friendly to the mining, grazing, and logging corporations than the federal government, and there is not a large, organized contingent of environmentalists trying to block them.

Other politicians want to sell federal lands and forests directly to the timber, mining and grazing companies. Pointing to the destroyed forests on public lands, these politicians and interest groups claim that private management is the best for all lands and property. It is no coincidence that these are the very politicians who legislated policies which gave the timber industry license to clearcut and destroy our national forests.

In our campaign to Save America's Forests there are many strategies, both offensive and defensive, that will be necessary. The rabid anti-environmental Congress has rendered us largely defensive. But this stance will never bring about true protection of our forests. We must fight offensively.

The Forest Biodiversity Bill is Save America's Forests' main *offensive* action. Its passage would increase the level of forest protection in our national forests. We have been very successful over the last four years in obtaining support for this bill, attracting the support from more representatives each Congress. Although we don' t expect to pass this legislation this year, it is important that we continue to build support in Congress now so that it will be ready to pass in a more environmentally friendly Congress.

Another *offensive* tactic of ours is a proposal to cut the Forest Service budget. We are working to defund the timber industry's taxpayer subsidized destruction of our forests. The Forest Service is an agency of 38,000 employees designed to deliver billions of board feet of our National Forests—a million logging trucks a year—to the timber industry. It is high time we taxpayers stopped this forest give away program. We propose chopping the budget of the Forest Service by a billion dollars or more, and letting the timber companies pay the full costs of logging the National Forests out of their own pocket.

The Law Represents An Old Reality

In order for Congress to pass a major new law, either financial power or a powerful popular movement has to pressure the U.S. Congress. The successful enactment of a major new federal law or constitutional amendment signals two things. First, it signals change from previous conditions. Second, it signals the existence of enormous power in society either of wealthy corporations and/or rich people, or some large public interest groups, usually against some corporate interests.

The environmental movement, which was powerful enough decades ago to pass strong state and federal legislation, has become weak. That legislation, particularly regarding forest protection, has either never been enforced or is being weakened. The existing laws are a wall with a crumbling foundation. They represent a strong legislative environmental movement that no longer exists.

Wealthy corporate interests are often at odds with the public. Congress, as it shapes public policy and drafts laws, is the battleground of these counterbalancing interests. For our government to be democratic, interest groups have to have equal access to Congressional power. When corporate dollars overpower the voice of the majority, the system is corrupted. The environmental voice has been drowned out in this way.

Anti-environmental interests knew that the existing laws were ripe for attack. When right wing factions exploited the mass discontent of the status quo and took over last November, an anti-environmental (and pro-DuPont, pro-Weyerhauser) Congress came to power. This ultra-conservative movement has been organizing to take over Congress since the crushing defeat of conservative icon Barry Goldwater in 1964 by President Lyndon Johnson. Timber PAC money flowed by the millions of dollars into the election campaigns of both senior Congressmen and many of the new right wing members.

ORGANIZE!

All of us who love forests are appalled at the *current* destruction. But the new Congress' proposals for the destruction of both our environment and the rule of law and democracy are truly terrifying. We must read the hand-writing on the wall—we need to organize to get a new Congress!

Organizing means educating and amassing blocs of voters, and using that power for both legislation and elections. Many of you are leaders or potential leaders. Lead! Start a group, join a group, be a strong voice on forest protection in your congressional district a[illegible] state. Give slide shows and talks. Hand out literature. Tell everyone you can about our nation's deforestation crisis. Get on the radio, write letters to the editor, and explain who is responsible for the destruction of our beautiful forests—the timber industry and their Congressional lackeys.

Hold your representatives accountable for their forest votes, particularly on the Taylor rider. If they voted no on the Yates amendment which would have killed the Taylor rider, they are no friend of the forests. Let them know that their vote is going to be widely publicized, and that they must either vote for the forests in the future or expect to lose your support in future elections. Remember also to thank our friends in Congress, particularly the 150 who voted against the Taylor Amendment.

This is where the numbers game equals real power and forest protection. You must gain the following of a lot of people who are educated on this issue and who agree to vote in future elections based on forest protection. Then, when you or your group speaks to your representative or senator, he or she will listen to what you have to say very seriously. If we don't take back Congress in the next few elections, there will hardly be any forests left to protect. Don' t give up. Organize for the forests.

For more information on how you can get involved, call Save America's Forests at (202) 544-9219, or write: 4 Library Court, SE, Washington, DC 20003.

Sierra Club Management:

Shaming Muir's Memory

BY CHAD HANSON

Some unusual things have transpired since I wrote my article on the misdeeds of the Sierra Club's national managers (see the Mabon, 1994 issue of the *Journal*). The article discussed Sierra Club management's support for certain industry bills and management's rigging of the ballot in the last Club election to prevent an attempt by the membership to strengthen Sierra Club forest policy .

Soon after the piece was printed, I received, by certified mail, a threatening quasi-legal letter from the Club's secretary, Richard Cellarius. The letter demanded that I "promptly" confirm whether I had written the EF! article and two letters to the editor of a similar nature. A strange question, especially given the fact that I was listed as the author of all three pieces. Smelling a SLAPP suit (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation) in the air, I retained an attorney who requested that they kindly back off, which they did—for the moment. The letter was designed purely to intimidate me and keep me silent. They have no valid legal claims against me, since everything I wrote is accurate. SLAPP suits are legally baseless by definition, but can be very effective because they are used by those with an abundance of power and money against those who, though they are effective activists, are financially poor.

Around the time this SLAPP suit was intimated by the Sierra Club Management, I received some anonymous hate mail which contained numerous references to my involvement in the Sierra Club. Something about the way it was addressed caught my eye. It contained two unique but minor mistakes in my address. I then checked the address on my latest Sierra Magazine—the mistakes were identical. I also noticed that the letter was postmarked on a Monday—the day after a meeting of the national board in San Francisco, and was mailed from Oakland, California, which is adjacent to San Francisco and has a major airport from which some board members likely depart. The upshot is this: during the board meeting, when Club leaders were supposed to be figuring out how to stop the war against the environment, someone took the time to write me a hate letter, and accessed my membership file to obtain my address (which is unlisted). There aren't too many people in the Club who have that kind of immediate access to membership files—the fifteen directors and a few national staff members. Even more disturbing is the fact that a copy of the letter was mailed to two reformer colleagues of mine, an activist in Illinois and a director who was elected in the last election from our slate of candidates.

The Sierra Club has lost over 100,000 members and is in a serious budget crisis. And it's no wonder. The board of directors has been waging a war on the Club's grassroots activists and membership for several years. The crime of the membership: having the audacity to suggest that national Sierra Club managers stop compromising away the last remnants of vanishing ecosystems and restore John Muir's passion, strength and vision to the Club. Members who insist that the board uphold the Club's stated mission—"to protect the wild places of the Earth"—are ultimately threatened with a lawsuit or some other intimidation measure.

There is a serious problem at the top of the Sierra Club. Democracy, free speech, and strong environmental advocacy are, to say the least, not deeply held values among the Club's management (with a couple notable exceptions). In fact, the Board recently passed a censorship policy which allows them to revoke the ccmail (internal Sierra Club E-mail) access of members for "inappropriate distribution of messages" or "acrimonious communication" (i.e., anything that questions the board's behavior). Club management also recently proposed to stack the board with appointees (all 15 national directors are elected by the general membership). They cited and quoted a provision of California law which, they claimed, gave them the authority to install nine appointees. I did some research and found out that the provision they referred to did not exist! I then checked to see if it had been repealed. It turns out that the provision never even existed. I sent Club management a message asking them to explain this. No answer. Again I sent a message asking that this be addressed. Again there was complete silence; but the bizarre board-stacking proposal faded into the woodwork and has not reappeared.

So, for the second year in a row, a nationwide coalition of reformer-members dedicated to taking back our organization and restoring Muir's vision collected hundreds of signatures in order to place several reform candidates on the ballot for the board of directors. These reform candidates are Margaret Hays Young, Susan Schock, David Dilworth, myself (Chad Hanson) and former Sierra Club executive director David Brower (five seats are open on the board).

Brower was forced from his position as executive director of the Club years ago for being a visionary environmental leader and an uncompromising advocate for ecosystem protection. The current board apparently considers him a threat to their empire because, in an attempt at damage control, they sent someone to ask him to run on the board's slate, rather than as a petition candidate challenger. They said that they wanted to "interview him" for inclusion on the board's slate of candidates. Brower declined, replying, "Interview me? If you don't know what I stand for by now, you never will."

The board was in a real pickle. They were faced with a challenge by four energetic reformers and uncompromising ecosystem defenders, and a legendary environmental leader. They knew that the contrast to the board's usual slate of stodgy, foul-dispositioned, uninspired, old-guard types would be quite conspicuous. What is a treacherous, scheming board to do? They needed a visionary to make their candidates look more cutting edge and hardcore. Also, they knew that five reformer challengers were already running. The addition of a reformer on their slate would, they may have assumed, dilute the voting power of Club members who vote for strong reformers, since their votes would then be spread among six reformers with only five open seats. So they asked Dave Foreman, co-founder of Earth First! and executive director of the Wildlands Project, to run on the board's slate. Foreman accepted, which is fine with us because we think the board's scheme might just backfire on them; and we'd be happy to see Dave get elected. Just to be perfectly clear: Foreman is not part of any scheme the board may have. He probably feels, as do we, that he has a good chance of getting elected. More power to him.

January 3 was the deadline for signatures to qualify our candidates for the Club ballot. It was also the deadline for our candidate statements. We have been calling our nationwide organization of Sierra Club member-reformers the "John Muir Society." Originally, our group was called the "Association of Sierra Club Members for Environmental Ethics" (ASCMEE); but in 1991, then Club President Phillip Berry (who is still a director) threatened our leaders with a SLAPP suit over our name. ASCMEE leaders, who didn't have the money to defend against the intimidation suit, reluctantly changed the name to the "John Muir Society." About midway through December (as we were writing our statements), the board decided that they would try to distract us with yet another SLAPP suit threat. This time they claimed that we could not use the name "John Muir Society" in our public communications! Apparently they feel that the memory of John Muir is some sort of property interest to which they have exclusive rights. This newest threat was sent to a core John Muir Society member in Illinois by an attorney who warned that he had been authorized and instructed by the "Sierra Club" to take action if we did not drop our name. The funny thing is, the one director who is a John Muir Society member was never consulted on the matter. But the letter did not stop there. It also demanded that we immediately turn over "the names of any other people who are making use of the 'John Muir Society' name." The Orwellian implications of this are enough to send a shiver down one's spine. The response deadline given by the attorney was—surprise—January 3rd, the same day our petitions and candidate statements were due. Coincidence? You be the judge.

Hold on, it gets weirder. I did a trademark/service mark search on the "John Muir Society." Ours has always been an unofficial organization. We never registered or legally protected our name. But, to my amazement (but not surprise), I discovered that someone had filed papers in May of 1994 to register the "John Muir Society" as an official service mark. The registrant was the Sierra Club. Utterly unbelievable. Club management had been well aware of our use of the name "John Muir Society" for years, and never contested it. But when they found out our name was not legally protected, they decided—out of spite and pure meanness—to repress and undermine us again. You would think that, with the global collapse of ecosystems and all, Sierra Club management would have something better to do with their time and our membership fees. If only Sierra Club management fought industry and Congress with the same vigor and viciousness with which they stomp on the Club's strongest, most effective activists. Wouldn't that be some kind of world? Hell, we might even win a few!

Anyway, once again, we didn't have the money to mount a legal defense, and, most of us generally felt that if we're going to get involved in a lawsuit we'd prefer it be over substance rather than name. Also the board service-marked our name (they claim they were using the name before us). Consequently, we changed our name to "John Muir's Guardians." That's where things sit at the moment.

Somewhere along the line the people who currently control the Sierra Club forgot that they are supposed to speak for those who cannot speak for themselves—the trees, wolves, salmon, spotted owls, grizzly bears, and on and on. At some point they lost sight of the fact that ecosystems are more important than the organization; that this is not about their organization, but a struggle with life and death consequences for millions of species and future generations of humans. They succumbed to the intoxications of political access—at a price. They lost their vision. They lost their connection to the land. After awhile, there ceased to be a right and wrong—just access, ego, and power. While there's still hope—and there is still hope—it's time for this to change.

Chad Hanson is a member of John Muir's Guardians—a nationwide coalition of Sierra Club member-activists working to reclaim the Sierra Club and restore Muir's vision, passion, and strength. Contact them at 117 N. Shamrock St., Apt 1, East Alton, IL 62024-1149-17.

PULP AND PAPER: A Global Tragedy

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF ACTION APRIL 18!

BY NATIVE FOREST NETWORK

Global consumption of pulp and paper products liquidates four billion trees annually, and the number is rising. Tragically, most of these trees end up in the dump after one use. The pulp and paper industry rationalizes the destruction of native forests as necessary for employment and economic growth. At the same time, forty percent of the waste in US dumps is reusable paper and cardboard.

Multinational corporations continue to conceal the true environmental costs of this "economic growth": the destruction of wildlife habitat, extensive soil erosion, degraded water quality and a severe decline in oxygen-producing forests. Even though air pollution is the result, trash incinerators have allowed pulp and paper companies to justify production of one-time use packaging, paper and cardboard products.

The industry creates unnecessary demand for its products, primarily in the industrialized countries, by luring consumers into using convenient, disposable products through high-priced advertising. Remnants of native forest in Canada, Chile and Siberia, to name a few, are at the mercy of pulp and paper producers who seek cheap, subsidized sources of wood. As they expand into new markets in countries in the southern hemisphere and former Eastern Bloc countries, these remaining forests will be sacrificed to meet an artificial economic demand. (If the world population conformed to the rate of consumption of US citizens, it would require 3 to 5 earths to provide the resources.)

What these corporations are not advertising are the scars from clearcutting and roadbuilding, the sterile tree farms that follow, the legacy of sediment-choked rivers and filthy skies, nor the numerous threats to human health. It is our responsibility, as citizens of Earth, to fundamentally challenge their careless and destructive business activities and to change consumer habits.

The Native Forest Network (NFN) promotes the global importance of intact native forests, while presenting the public with forest-friendly alternatives to current paper products. NFN advocates a shift from paper produced from primary forest to paper produced from post-consumer fibers, agricultural waste, fibrous materials retrieved from dumps, and ecologically-sustainable alternative fibers. It is imperative for our survival that we make a conscious, combined effort to reduce consumption of disposable packaging, to reuse and re-re-recycle, to promote tree-free markets and to maintain the integrity of wild forests.

The fundamental goals of NFN's Pulp and Paper campaign are: 1) To reveal the root causes of deforestation by focusing on overconsumption of disposable products and packaging. 2) To show how pulp & paper manufacturing demolishes forest ecosystems and degrades human health through pollution and waste. 3) To expose the multinational corporations who are the driving force behind forest loss from pulp and paper production.

SHOUT OUT ON APRIL 18!

The Native Forest Network is coordinating an international day of action on April 18, 1995 to express our outrage at the pulp and paper industry for their polluting policies and criminal practices. Profit-hungry multinational corporations such as Daishowa of Japan, Champion International and Stone Container of the United States, AMCOR of Australia and Parsons & Whittemore of England are destroying millions of acres of temperate, tropical and boreal forest. For example, the northern third of Alberta, Canada, has been designated a wood-use production zone by the provincial government. They have given Daishowa the right to clearcut the entire boreal forest ecosystem thus depriving the Lubicon Cree of traditional means of survival.

While these large companies have extensive international holdings, they are increasingly relying on pulp and paper markets to pay off debts and bolster short-term profits. Since pulp producers can use trees down to two inches in diameter, virtually any forest is seen as potential raw material.

HOW YOU CAN HELP

- Organize a meeting, action or demonstration at your favorite corporate or governmental pulp and paper criminal. Let them know that forests are not trash and should be recognized for more than their monetary value.
- Write letters and send faxes to the real criminals—the Chief Executive Officers of these destructive, salivating multinationals!
- Set up a meeting with a government official or a client of a multinational pulp & paper manufacturer such as newspaper and phone book companies or your neighborhood corporate supermarket.

Be creative in your bioregion! Raise awareness about the environmental and human costs of pulp and paper production and consumption. Consumers need to be informed that buying alternative fibers provides a stronger incentive for industry and government to stop killing trees for pulp and paper.

To get more information contact NFN, POB 8251, Missoula, MT 59807, phone (406) 251-2385, E-mail: nfnconferenc@igc.apc.org.

CASHING OUT

continued from page 3

Witness the Sierra Club's recent threats to sue renegade chapters that publicly opposed their position on Montana and Idaho Wilderness. Or NRDC's attempt to delay the filing of the petition to list the Queen Charlotte's goshawk as an endangered species. Or SCLDF's arm twisting of the plaintiffs in the spotted owl case. Or the Environmental Defense Fund's betrayal of at-risk communities across America when it signed on to Dow Chemical's proposed revamping of Superfund. Fred Krupp, president of EDF, was overheard telling the EPA's Carol Browner "you are our general. We are your troops. We await your orders." Or the sadomasochistic pleasure that NRDC's president John Adams took when he boasted about "breaking the back of the environmental opposition to NAFTA."

You don't have to be versed in the works of Hannah Arendt or Michelle Foucault to understand the dynamics of power and repression that are at work here. Activists are now aliens on the political landscape. Their relationship to the lawyers, lobbyists and CEOs that manage the movement parallels that of welfare mothers to the welfare bureaucracy: abusive indifference. To quote Joseph Heller, "something happened." Somewhere along the line the environmental movement disconnected with the people. Rejected its political roots, pulled the plug on its vibrant tradition. It packed its bags, it starched its shirts and jetted to DC where it became what it once despised: a risk aversive, depersonalized, overly analytical, humorless, access-driven, intolerant, statistical, centralized, technocratic, deal-making, passionless, sterilized, direct-mailing, jock strapped, lawyer-laden monolith to mediocrity. But you know, there's hope, because its a monolith with feet of clay. It can be toppled. The environmental movement didn't so much go awry as it simply flatlined, cruise-controlled right into an entropic cooldown—the ultimate thermodynamic fate of all closed systems. The gang of ten now manifests all the intensity of an insurance cartel. Their executives and administrative underlings are much more likely to own a copy of Donald Trump's *Art of the Deal* or, God forbid, Henry Kissinger's *Diplomacy* than Donald Worster's *The Wealth of Nature* or Bill Kittridges *Hole in the Sky* or Terry Tempest Williams' *Refuge*. You know you can forget the eyes because its a person's bookshelf that is the real window to their soul.

National environmental policies are now engineered by EDF and NRDC and SCLDF. You can call them the Acronym Access. They're groups without voting memberships, they have no responsibility to the subscribers for their magazines or to the movement as a whole. They are the undisputed mandarins of techno-talk and lawyer-logic, who gave us the ecological oxymorons of the 1990s. Pollution Credits. Re-created wetlands. Sustainable development. In their relativistic milieu everything can be traded off or dealt away. For them, the tag end remains of the native ecosystems on our public lands are endlessly divisible. Every loss can be recast as a hard won victory in the advertising copy of their fundraising propaganda. Settle and move on is their unregenerate mantra. And don't expect them to stick around and live with the consequences of their deals.

But there's still a flickering pulse to this battered movement of ours. Hannah Arendt and Thomas Paine sang the same refrain: the more pervasive the repression, the more profound the rebellion to come. Well the rebellion has started. There have been a small range of victories across the landscape.

You've got Jimmy Carter endorsing NREPA when the Sierra Club wouldn't.

You've got Missouri forest activists defeating multi-tentacled ORV trail plans in their forests in the central hardwoods.

You've got Headwaters' renunciation of the Applegate partnership, the archetype of consensus-blessed clearcutting.

You've got the Native Forest Council's brave attempt—and they're still trying to do it—to maintain the Dwyer injunction, to stop the wretched Option 9.

You've got Heartwood and Andy Mahler fighting for the defense of the red-cockaded woodpecker in the federal backwoods of Kentucky.

You've got the Western North Carolina Alliance leading a hillbilly rebellion in a decade-long struggle to transform the Nantahalla-Pisgah forest plan on the most biologically diverse forest in the country in North Carolina.

You've got the Bryant Bill, which I'm not all that thrilled about, but it defies the odds because the Bryant Bill is getting better every year over the opposition of the nationals. And everybody telling them its impossible. This is a bill that doesn't get weaker it gets stronger and it gets more co-sponsors as it gets stronger.

You've got Forest Guardians down in the southwest, doing groundbreaking work in Mexico's Sierra Madres.

You've got the Alliance for the Wild Rockies. Tremendous work on the bull trout and their leadership on NREPA. And they've been fought every step of the way, they've been fought every step of the way by the Pew cartel and by the nationals.

You've got the Greater Gila Biodiversity Project's Rivers Project, and Gila Watch's defense of Aldo Leopold's wilderness.

You've got Pat Wolff's courageous run for New Mexico State Lands Commissioner.

You've got Steve Kelly's challenge of the frigid Pat Williams.

You've got EPIC's slam-dunk injunction over that mad felon Charles Hurwitz!

These are like snow peaks sprouting on the horizon, they're scattered pockets of resistance, and they can help us triangulate our way back home. They can enable us to circle back to the resolute clarity of place. And that move, as Terry Tempest Williams suggests in her shimmering book, *The Unspoken Hunger*, may be the most radical act of all.

Environmentalism was once a people's cause, unaligned with any political party, independent of the demands of the shadowy syndicate of mega-foundations that now hold the mortgage on the movement. Those high priests of Foucault's condescending philanthropy. Environmentalism was once driven by a desire for social justice, and an unrelenting passion for the wild. We've got to tap back into those progressive tributaries of the populist mainstream. Let the vision attract the money, don't allow the vision to be refracted through the ideological prism of conservative foundations. Remember, the power of the people can still overwhelm the influence of money. Look at Chiapas. Listen to Mandela. Anything is possible; find your place, take a stand. People will join you.

Poison, Death and Destruction for the Owyhees?

BY PYRITE TOOTH

Oregon's first cyanide heap leach mine—the Grassy Mountain Project—is under construction in the Owyhee range on the state's eastern edge. The multinational mining company responsible for the project, Newmont Gold of Denver, Colorado, has a 100 year history of ecological disasters. The cyanide heap-leach mining process wastes vast amounts of water and electricity and involves percolating a cyanide solution through huge piles of earth dug from massive open pits. Once the digging's done and the gold's been grabbed, the pit sits open, attracting Canada and White Geese who drink from the pond and die. In the worst cases, the cyanide solution, laced with heavy metals from the leaching process, seeps into ground water or escapes into rivers.

The prospect of numerous cyanide and heavy metal waste ponds in the Owyhees is especially outrageous when you remember that the range and canyon lands narrowly escaped becoming a bombing range last year. The ecological devastation of mining is an equally horrible threat to this fantastic region. Although Newmont doesn't have a permit yet, road building and construction of the Grassy Mountain mine site started last year. If work continues the project will turn this mountain into a 1,000 foot wide, 2,000 foot deep crater.

Roads now cover the BLM site. Plans indicate that up to 105 million tons of earth will be torn out of Grassy Mountain in pursuit of the gold. Construction work has already resulted in a diesel spill into nearby Rock Creek, and soon the Owyhee River herself could taste the bitter poison of Newmont's greed. Perhaps our actions can protect the Owyhee from the fate of the Alamosa river in Colorado, seventeen miles of which died after cyanide-laced water leached out of the Summitville mine.

Permitting of this mine will establish a precedent for cyanide leach mining in this region. No such mine exists in Oregon, yet.

Permit extensions will allow the Grassy Mountain mine to expand indefinitely. Local activists were surprised to hear a state Department of Geology representative at a public meeting suggest that numerous other mines and expansions of the proposed one were already in the works. The spokesperson then retracted her statement. Newmont, however, has indicated that at least six other sites in the area are potential future mines.

Newmont Gold was formerly majority owner of both Peabody Holding (Coal) Company and Dawn Mining in Washington, which is responsible for the uranium mine on the Spokane Indian Reservation that Dawn now wants to use as a toxic waste dump at Washington state's expense. Newmont's record of disasters spans over a century and includes the California Gulch Superfund site initiated when heavy metals leaked into California Gulch and then into the Arkansas river; the aforementioned Dawn Mine; the Gray Eagle Copper Mine in California (1941) which killed off most aquatic life in Luther Gulch Creek; the Rain Mine in Nevada which has persistent problems with acid mine drainage into nearby creeks; the Idarado Mine superfund site (Newmont owns 80% of Idarado Mining Co.) in Colorado; and oodles of other ecologically demented projects. Newmont has been and still is involved in cyanide mines for gold and copper in hundreds of places in Peru, Australia, the Sonoran desert in Mexico, the United States, New Guinea, Indonesia, Canada and, until recently, South Africa. With such a track record it should be obvious that Newmont Gold Co. is an incurable criminal recidivist who will not be reformed. Corporations like Newmont simply must go!

Unbelievably, the President of the mainstream Mineral Policy Center—one of the few groups working for mining reform—stated in the last issue of MPC's magazine *Clementine* that he supports the Grassy Mountain project as the kind of mining he wants to see in the future. Go figure?!

Individuals wishing to pursue legal channels to stop the development of the Grassy Mountain mine may write to the Oregon Department of Geology and Minerals. Anyone can request to become part of the permitting process. It shouldn't matter where you live; Newmont, after all, is a multi-national corporation with its headquarters in Colorado. Comments expressing opposition to this project should also be sent their way. Pressure from individuals taking part in this process has significantly slowed Newmont. However, mining companies usually calculate ahead of time how much "opposition" will cost them in time and money. Newmont expects this to be an easy campaign. The only way to keep Newmont out permanently is to convince them that the costs of putting a mine in the Owyhee region are too high. (Refer to a copy of *Ecodefense* for further suggestions.)

Since Newmont has its fingers in so many bioregions, local actions in your own area are perhaps one of the best strategies. But for those of you who might be thinking of a vacation in the Owyhee region, the site is located about 25 miles north from Vale, Oregon. Take the Vale Highway 20 southwest until you reach "Twin Springs" road, head due south (the road is unpaved from this point), travel about 18 miles, or to within 2 miles of Twin Springs, and Grassy Mountain will be unmistakable. You won't be able to drive this road in the rainy season without good four-wheel drive. If you walk, you'll have to walk from the Twin Springs junction.

Send comments and request to become part of the scoping process: Department of Geology and Minerals, 1536 Queen Ave. SE, Albany, OR 97321; Phone (503) 967-2039.

Write to the Mineral Policy Center and demand that they actively oppose Grassy Mountain Mine. Tell them to support the grassroots efforts to stop this mine. Mineral Policy Center, Room 550, 1325 Massachusetts Ave., NW, Washington, DC. 20005, phone (202) 737-1872.

Form your own group! Right now there's not really a bandwagon to jump on. The one group that's currently working most closely on this issue, primarily through the initiative process (who doesn't necessarily agree with the views expressed in this article), is: STOP'M! (Stop Toxic Open Pit Mines), PO Box 40326, Portland, OR 97240-0326, phone (503)221-1683.

Finally, write to Newmont themselves and tell them you plan to make it costly and difficult for them to mine the Owyhees: Newmont Gold Co., One United Bank Center, 1700 Lincoln Street, Denver, Colorado 80203, phone (303) 863-7414.

Exxon Goons Push Crandon Mine on Reluctant Wisconsin

The goons at Exxon Inc. have struck hard recently to make their dream of gobbling up Wisconsin's North Woods a gruesome reality. Maybe it was the statewide poll showing 59 percent of Wisconsinites in opposition to the proposed Crandon mine that got them off their slimy butts, or maybe they've just been biding their time. Now it is apparent: the mining industry doesn't mean to be pushed around by any backcountry alliance of Indian tribes, ecoactionists, fishing advocates, and landowners anymore. After all, even though this particular mine would destroy the Wolf River, local autonomy, and any pretense of First Nation sovereignty, the fact is there's money to be made.

First came the announcement of the creation of the Wisconsin Mining Association by the Wisconsin Manufacturers and Commerce (WMC). James Buchen, WMC's vice-president for governmental relations, tells us that a goal of the association will be to, "get the facts out that Wisconsin industry cannot survive without minerals, and we need to make sure it's done in an environmental and responsible manner." Right.

Next came Governor Toxic Tommy's budget. Gov. Thompson has proposed eliminating the Public Intervenor's Office— which resides within the Justice Department—the one agency in state government which has consistently sided with the people against corporate and government crimes. In the case of the Exxon mine, the Public Intervenor's office has been crucial in ensuring public access to the permitting process. Yet Tommy tells us that we must save money, and so he is cutting an office whose total budget is $230,000. In comparison, Tommy's top aide, James Klauser, a former Exxon mining lobbyist, sits atop the Department of Administration, with a budget of $270,000,000. Guess how much Kaiser Klauser's budget is being slashed.

Finally, the Governor has proposed eliminating the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Board, the folks who have been holding public hearings all along on the mining issue, who have heard from tens of thousands of angry anti-mining Wisconsinites either via mail or in person, and who are charged with overseeing the general operations of the DNR.

Behind these moves are the men at Exxon Inc., their partners at Rio Algom Mining Inc., and their pals at Chevron. Who is funding the Wisconsin Mining Association? Who has poured tens of thousands into political campaign coffers over the years? You can bet it's not the Girl Scouts.

In the face of these moves, however, opposition to the deadly mine continues to mount. The US Fish & Wildlife Service recently sent the Army Corps of Engineers a letter expressing opposition to the mine on the basis of the fact that it would violate numerous pieces of federal legislation, such as the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act, that it would violate treaties between the First Nations and the US government, and that it would place unjust costs on the shoulders of local people and undue profits in the hands of Exxon Inc.'s owners. The EPA has also expressed opposition to the mine, stating that given current technology and current conditions, the Crandon mine should not be permitted. In addition, national and international media have begun to take an interest in the Crandon mine as a precedent setting case.

The most effective thing any Earth defender can do to prevent the midwest's headwaters from being poisoned by tens of millions of tons of sulphuric acid waste laced with heavy metals is to get to know the issue real well—this is going to be a long struggle. For more information write: Mining Impact Coalition, 19 E. Wilson, Madison, WI 53703 or Midwest Headwaters Action, 731 State St, Madison, WI 53703.

At a public hearing held on December 7 at which 100 people presented the DNR Board with the signatures of some 7,000 Wisconsinites opposed to metallic sulphide mining in Wisconsin, the board members were told, to paraphrase it, "You have heard from us again and again and again. You know that more and more people are becoming opposed to this mine each day." If they do allow the mine to go through, we're going to need some serious support from all over the world.

NREPA's *Back!*

BY DAN FUNSCH

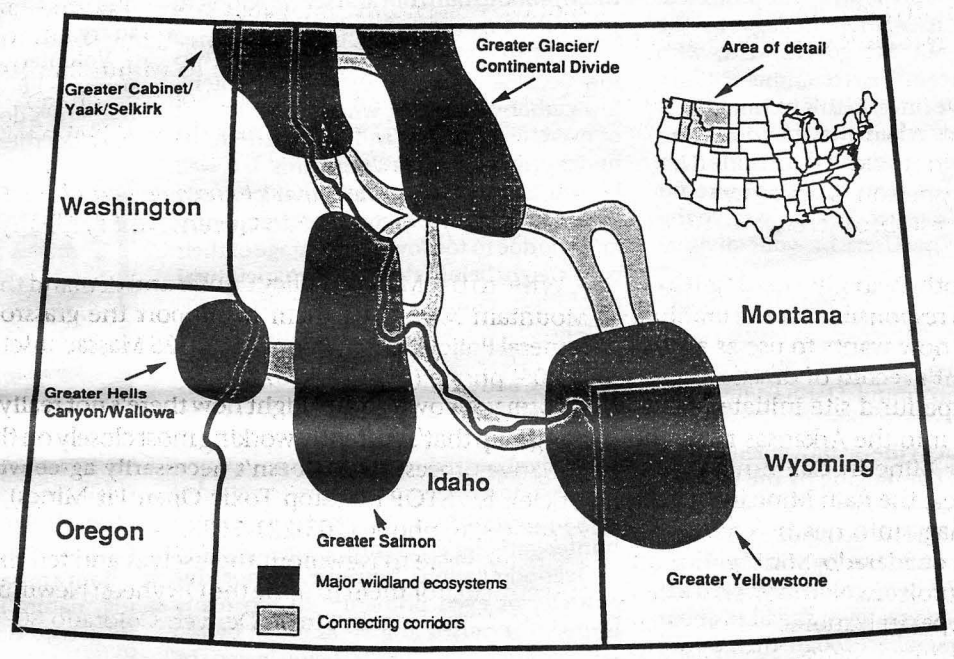
Conservationists are fortunate to have a legislative tool like the 1964 Wilderness Act to protect our threatened wildlands. But the Wilderness system has failed to protect biological diversity, in part because of our approach to Wilderness designation. Most areas in the system are at higher elevations, chosen for scenic and recreational attributes, not biological value. Diverse habitat types are poorly represented, and important concepts like biological linkage corridors are neglected. The results can be seen in alarming declines in water quality and fisheries, habitat fragmentation, endangered species listings, etc.

The Northern Rockies Ecosystem Protection Act (NREPA) represents a new approach to this problem, one which incorporates new concepts from conservation biology and challenges our traditional view of "political reality."

Scientifically based, NREPA incorporates concepts such as species viability, connectivity, and reserve system design. It protects and restores habitat to ensure the long-term health of diverse forest ecosystems. NREPA also recognizes the importance of wildlands to our economy, so it creates new jobs in wildland restoration. Additionally, the regional approach recognizes that ecosystems transcend state boundaries.

The bill protects large blocks of federal roadless land as Wilderness—over 16 million acres region-wide—and links these blocks with biological connecting corridors. NREPA also protects 1500 miles of Wild and Scenic Rivers, and directs two national park and preserve feasibility studies. It protects Native American cultural resources and access to traditional sites.

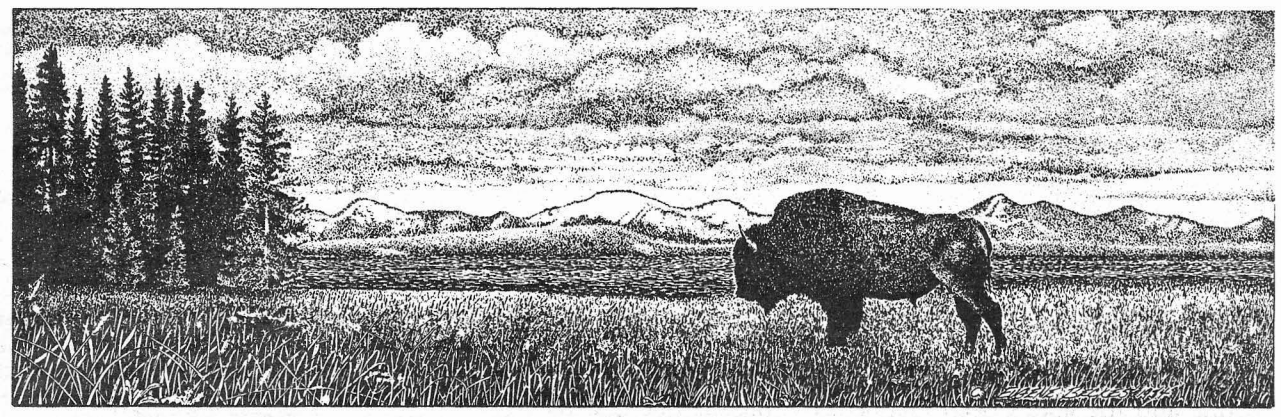
Breaking new ground in conservation legislation, NREPA establishes a system of Wildland Recovery Areas. Many areas have been damaged by poor land management practices, and suffer soil erosion, excessive road densities and loss of secure wildlife habitat. Through an ambitious recovery program, these lands can be restored creating thousands of new jobs.



NREPA is supported by over 600 organizations and businesses—from hunting clubs to humane society chapters, property owners to main street businesses, and from grassroots activists to national organizations like Greenpeace and the Sierra Club. Ralph Nader has provided a statement of support for NREPA. His Taxpayers Assets Project noted that NREPA would save taxpayers millions of dollars by eliminating below-cost timber sales and costly road construction projects in pristine roadless areas.

It was first introduced in Congress in 1992 and reintroduced in July, 1993. By the end of 1994 it had attracted 64 co-sponsors in the House of Representatives and was the subject of hearings in the Natural Resources, Merchant Marine and Fisheries, and Agriculture Committees. In early 1995, Representative Carolyn Maloney (D-NY), along with twenty other original co-sponsors, reintroduced the bill, now called HR 852. It presently awaits new committee hearings.

Add your vote to the list of supporters by writing your representatives in Congress. Tell them to pass NREPA and other regional protection bills and begin a program of ecosystem restoration. For more information contact the Alliance for the Wild Rockies, PO Box 8731, Missoula, MT 59807, (406) 721-5420.



Bison: Lethal Policies and Weird Politics

BY JAMES BARNES

This winter, west of Yellowstone National Park, the Montana Department of Livestock (MDoL) shot hundreds of bison. Following an eternally "interim" Bison Management Plan, the state killed bison which left public land—the park and adjacent national forest—and crossed onto private ranches or wandered into the town of West Yellowstone to hang out in people's yards and eat their shrubberies. Where bison stayed away from private land and cows, MDoL is rumored to have had them baited. Despite this, the local people seem to like having bison around, even if they do occasionally charge one's truck, and are getting fed up with the state's murderous policies.

The real buffalophobes are ranchers, like Elizabeth Claire Prophet and the armed Church Universal and Triumphant, who have concocted the whole red herring about bison giving brucellosis (which causes cows to abort) to their precious cattle. Let's not pussyfoot around; transmission from bison to cattle doesn't happen and even if cows could pick it up from infected birth tissues, there are boatloads of infected elk running around and nobody's suggested killing all of them.

The state of Montana is facing pressure from the livestock industry and is caught between battling federal agencies. Since the issue for cattlemen is really competition for forage, the Agricultural Health and Inspection Service (APHIS) has threatened to take away Montana's "brucellosis-free" status if the bison aren't all properly destroyed and/or kept firmly in the park.

In contrast, the National Park Service in Yellowstone won't play the brucellosis game, and won't control their movements. At the same time, they now realize that their popular groomed snowmobile trails are responsible for increased bison numbers and easy migration, which complicates matters. Governor Racicot's administration would just as soon be done with the whole, bad-PR-generating mess. The state is suing the Interior Department over the park's management and the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (MDFW&P) is suing Agriculture's APHIS over *its* stance.

Meanwhile, in a sort of sick appeasement scam, the state is donating the dead animals to regional Indian tribes who would much rather have bison live and free-ranging. Surprisingly, MDFW&P, which oversees game management, has timidly suggested that bison be allowed to recolonize and be hunted like other game species. Clearly it has finally dawned on this agency that there is an enormous amount of money to be made selling buffalo tags to rich eastern "sportsmen."

Yellowstone Earth First!, in a move that confused many, sent out a press release that also advocated bison hunts, but using only native, pre-Columbian technology (bows and spears—no horses). With EF! having previously been associated with bunny huggers and Hunt Sabs on bison kill actions, this statement puzzled the local press. Few seem to comprehend the difference between exterminate-on-sight and sustainable hunting of a species in its natural range—except maybe the Indians.

The bison, unconcerned with our squabbles, multiply and migrate. Everywhere they increase while Europeans abandon the plains.

Call E.E. "Cork" Mortensen at the Department of Livestock (406) 444-2023, and tell him nobody wants his "services" anymore. Keep the pressure on Governor Racicot, (406) 444-3111; and write Yellowstone Park, Box 168, YNP, WY 82190 and USDA-APHIS, Room 312-E, Administration Bldg., Washington, DC 20250.

Pacific Ocean Dead Zone

BY JONATHAN PAUL

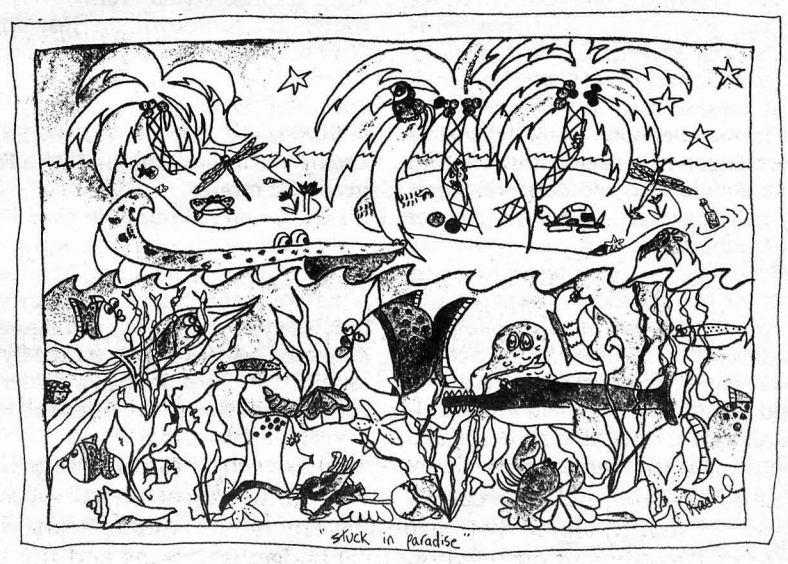
Warming temperatures and the disappearance of a critical link in the food chain are turning the once healthy ocean waters near San Diego into a dead zone says Scripps Institution of Oceanography researcher John McGowan.

The temperature of the water has increased by two to three degrees since 1951 and the population of zooplankton, a critical part of the food chain, has decreased by 80 percent. The rising water temperature is robbing surface waters of nutrients, such as nitrates and phosphates, that plant phytoplankton need to thrive. Zooplankton—animal plankton—feeds on phytoplankton.

These results come from hundreds of thousands of water, temperature and plankton samples taken during 222 scientific cruises in the past 42 years. These cruises have covered areas within a 50,000 square mile area off the coast of San Diego and Point Conception.

Zooplankton is the main diet for many species of fish, including sardines, anchovy, hake, jack mackerel and the Pacific mackerel. Scripps Institute's findings are consistent with other studies that have shown stunning losses of fish and seabird population along the US Pacific coast. One such seabird is the sooty shearwater, whose numbers have declined by 90% since 1986. The shearwater feeds on zooplankton and small fish that also feed on zooplankton.

It seems obvious that the greenhouse effect is the main culprit along with continual pollution in the water. The US government will want to study the problem for another ten years before realizing what is obvious.



Dear SfB:

FRANK AND ERNEST
by Bob Thaves
OIL SPILLS, OZONE DEPLETION, SOIL EROSION -- I'LL HAVE TO RUN SOME TESTS, BUT IT LOOKS LIKE YOU'VE GOT A BAD CASE OF "PEOPLE".
E-mail: FRNEST@AOL.COM
© 1994 NEA, Inc.

Dear Lawhorn for Brains,

Gene, Gene, Gene, wake up boy. Tree spiking is not a failed tactic, if anything it is proliferating and it is costing the termite people plenty.

But that's not why I'm writing. I am in fact responding to your epistle in the last *EF! Journal* where you stated and I quote "... if you do get caught the good ol' boys—Roselle, Watson, Manes, Wolkie, and Foreman—will not do your time for you. Yeah, one of them may write an article glorifying your exploits, some comfort!"

What IS your problem, Gene, that you need to stoop to taking shots at people who are fighting effectively for the Earth?

Anyway, just a point of clarification. No, none of us will do time for the actions of other activists. We have all done time for our own actions and thus we have little patience for whiners who are afraid to risk the consequences for their own actions.

If you can't stand the heat, Gene, you and your friends should stay the hell out of the kitchen where the big boys and girls are engaged in standing up to the enemy.

And don't count on us to write glorifying accounts of your exploits if you should get caught. We have more important things to be concerned with then to glamorize the exploits of those whose strategy is so inept that they find themselves in trouble they did not anticipate and then resort to crying, "woe is me."

Gene, I'm facing a trial on three counts of felony mischief in New Foundland. Two of the counts carry a maximum of a life sentence each and the third carries a maximum of ten years. I don't expect you or anybody else to take the fall for my actions. Roselle has served his sentences with great nobility. Foreman made sacrifices to lower the sentences served by individuals whose strategy was so inept they allowed a Federal Agent to set them up. Wolkie paid his dues and I can't think of a better example of a misanthropic sage than Manes. So lay off kid, you haven't got the foggiest notion of who the people are that you are intent upon trashing.

The last sentence of your letter was and I quote again, "... this is a class issue. Think about it!"

I have thought about it. It's bullshit, Gene. The working class is in cahoots with the middle and upper class to screw the planet. We, the human species, and our uncontrolled escalating numbers are the problem Gene. It's not a class thing. Its a species thing.

If you don't like tree-spiking then don't do it. I don't like whining about other people's tactics and I don't do it. I just get pissed when I hear this holier-than-thou sanctimonious anthropocentric sensitive new age guy crapola. Get a life Gene and stop criticizing others who have one.

—Captain Paul Watson

Dear Earth First!

There were several things in the Yule 1994 issue I would like to comment on:

Carolyn Moran's article on "Tree-Free Paper" was good, but I feel that some additional perspective must be added. While it is better to use non-wood fibers for making paper at present than cutting down the forests, it must be made abundantly clear that the cultivation of such plants as hemp and flax should only be done on lands already agriculturalized. Last year a group of "environmentalists" nearby in Courtenay were advocating the planting of hemp in clearcuts for the production of paper and other products. From a biocentric perspective, this is a ludicrous idea since the ideal is to allow clearcuts to regenerate back into wild forests. Turning them into hemp fields is about the worst thing you can do.

In addition, the advocacy of tree-free paper should be recognized as only a small part of the solution, not anywhere near as a solution by itself, to deforestation. The real issue is the amount of trees harvested an d the forestry methods used; there is nothing inherently wrong with cutting down trees. In fact, eco-forestry (along with large protected areas) is a far better solution than the use of agriculture, as it retains most characteristics and biodiversity of a wild forest than a totally mowed down ecosystem replaced by non-native plants useful to humans like hemp, flax, or cereal crops. Agriculture sucks.

Mike Roselle's article hit on some important points but was also offensive in other respects. Nothing is more frustrating than having the large environmental organizations, who could do so much if they had the commitment, perpetually advocate watered down, half-baked stances on issue. In Canada, this is also a problem, but we also have next to no radical environmental groups like there are in the State's , although this seems to be changing in BC and Ontario in recent years.

However, I don't agree with Roselle's divisive and unconstructive attacks on Dave Foreman. Foreman may not be an EF!er anymore but he is filling a vital niche with Wild Earth, which recently released a rigorously scientifically-researched proposal for the Columbia Mountains in eastern BC that calls for 48% of the area to be protected. The use of conservation biology in the proposal will put the government, who didn't use science in their recommendations, on the defensive since, in this technological society, they can't claim that they don't care what science says. Leave all that childish infighting with Foreman to rest; you're no better than each other. You only serve the FBI and the Wise Users by your divisive polemics.

—R. Singh, Duncan, BC

Dear Shit-For-Brains:

I hope you don't mind if I still address you the old way. It's been a long time since I've had much input in the ol' movement (as we used to call it), but judging by the tenor of recent letters, our departed dictator may have been right: EF! is being diluted ... not by social ecologists, but by folks with no concept of their own group history. That Woo gal can say whatever she likes about Roselle (just remember though, this guy *gets off* on abuse! No joke!), but take it from a woman who knew Mr. Foreman all too well: Calling him an "Ollie North" is the understatement of the decade! Try "Benedict Arnold" with a macho twist. Try as he might to portray himself as another environmental giant, Foreman is no Brower. It amazes me how that fellow can abandon EF! (when people started asking for accountability on *Journal* matters), run off with the computers, mailing list and most of the merchandise, trash EF! in a dozen national rags, put out a book of lies on the people he called his friends, and then get away with blaming it all on anarchists and humanists in our midst! Talk about walking through shit and still smelling like a rose! This is the guy who tripled his speaking fees after getting popped for handing a snitch a hundred dollar bill. Right impressive, eh' Vancouver? If Woo wants the run-down on just who is a "compromising politician slimebag," drop a line to Mark Davis and he'll fill you in on your hero Dave, the crook that left him holding the bag. His address is in the *Journal*, and he needs the mail worse than Foreman needs the money.

Dave ran an ad in an early *Journal* issue for chicks willing to open their beers for them on the microbus roadshow. My suggestion is that y'all get a clue, or see if Nancy will let him hire you on. As for me, I figured out a long time before the shit started flyin' that I was better off pandering for wilderness on the Beltway, than selling clenched-fist teeshirts for a turncoat.

And folks, forget all this fussin' over tactics. Hell, nothing works, so just resist any ol' way that *feels good*.. Just do it with a little honor, for crissakes.

Remember me, big boy? ... "Just Another Pretty Face,"

—WILDCAT ANNIE

Dear EF!,

I must disagree with the anti-reproduction supplement in the Brigid issue. Mr. Knight simply has the wrong take on human physiology, psychology, and history. From both a theoretical and a practical perspective a radical environmental movement needs to be better grounded in reality to have any hope of accomplishing a vitally necessary reduction in human numbers before it is too late. The desire for children in a normal, healthy biological drive, independent of the sex-drive and not a cultural artifact, let alone an irrational one. Western culture still suffers from 1500 years of the Christian Church trying to repress sexuality; we don't need the psychological damage repeated by trying to repress the urge to procreate. Guilt-tripping people about their personal choices and actions is usually counter-productive and stirs up resistance and resentment.

I usually try to encourage people to have children if they can afford to support them because people with children will have a staked in the future of this planet and will be committed to its preservation. Environmentalists without kids are much more prone to burn out and see no reason to go on fighting for the earth.

The birth rate in the Paleolithic times was low because a woman on a high-protein, low-carbohydrate diet, which requires a lot of exercise to obtain, will likely tend to be underweight by today's standards. It is well known in the medical field that perfectly healthy female athletes are frequently infertile due to too low a percentage of their body weight being fat, when the agricultural revolution resulted in a low-protein, high-carbohydrate diet and consequent increase in the percentage of fat in the average woman's body, the population explosion began—and was inevitable, whatever the culture and it's values. If we want too talk seriously about reducing human population we must start by discussing how to get rid of agriculture and bringing about a return to a hunter-gatherer economy.

Over-population, however, is not due entirely, or even primarily, to too many births. It is caused at least as much by too few children and adults being eaten by predators. We don't just need fewer births; we need more deaths. It is far, far too late for any realistic reduction in the birth rate to do any good. Even a total 100% moratorium on all human births starting right now would not suffice to prevent a total world-wide ecological collapse in the next few decades. We need a recycling program; we need to reintroduce large predators to re-establish ecological balance by recycling humans back into the food chain where they belong. This, in turn, requires leveling the playing field between humans and predators by depriving the humans of all post-stone age weapons and technology.

These are not pie-in-the-sky wishful fantasies; they are a rock-bottom minimum for any serious proposal to solve the horrendous problem caused by having more than 1,000 times as many humans on this planet as there should be. It is laughable to urge people of the sort who read the journal to not have kids as if that were some sort of solution. What EF!ers should be doing in the *Journal* and in workshops at the rendezvous is brainstorming on the questions of how to monkeywrench the world's agricultural production and the industrial technology that enable the humans to maintain their numbers.

DELENDA EST!

Les U. Knight responds:

We have two choices in dealing with human over population: more deaths or fewer births. To keep human numbers stable, we either need 250,000 more deaths each day or 250,000 fewer births. Promoting fewer births is a lot more fun than the alternative, even if it means repressing normal, healthy biological drives to procreate. Fortunately, we have the ability to override remnants of biological urges which may be lurking in our genetic make-ups. Cultural programming can also be countered with our intellects, as millions of us our demonstrating. If we were simply slaves to our genes, there would be no hope for a better world. Ironically, our powerful intellect is what gave us agriculture and the potential for over-populating in the first place.

The more ideas we come up with for defending what's left of the wild, the better. Some of the craziest-sounding methods may prove to be workable with a little tinkering. If we limit ourselves to what's practical and "grounded in reality" we might overlook valuable innovations. Any idea from any source deserves to be given a fair run through the logic circuits. However, plans to increase human death fail to pass the ethics test and may be dismissed without much consideration.

Yes, it may be too late to prevent global ecological collapse, in which case the last thing we should do is create more of us to suffer and perhaps die in it. A more positive outlook is to assume that there's still hope and that we can make a difference. We have to try.

Voluntary human extinction alone won't preserve life on Earth, but each additional human we don't produce means more room for wilderness and wildlife. When we are not off raising new off-spring, we might have more time for raising hell at eco-destruction sites and for helping Earth-lings of all species.

—Les U. Knight
Stumptown, Oregon

To all deep ecologists, misanthropes, eco-freaks, animal rights radicals, eco-feminists, monkey wrenchers, and nature lovers in Connecticut,

I am a misanthropic, deep ecology following, nature loving, cynical, heretical eco-freak who is also a student at Central Connecticut State University (Biology-Environmental Science) who is looking to form an Earth First! group in Connecticut. There may not be much wilderness left to save in Connecticut, but every little bit counts. So anyone looking to form a group in this area, give me a call. Leave a message.

—Ron Ferrucci, home (203) 239-3670
school (203) 832-0732

Dear Coprocephalus,

Here's a great opportunity to use your computer for more than playing DOOM and doing term papers. There is an enormous flaming asshole from hell that has taken to the Internet airwaves and needs to have his hard disk reformatted. A one Alan Macnow (AMACNOW@IGC.APC.ORG) is an operative of the Japan Whaling Association and is posting filthy messages and stinking up otherwise useful enviro computer discussion lists like the Marine Mammal List (MARMAM@UVVM.BITNET — list.marmam on EcoNet) and the env.marine conference on EcoNet with this kind of excrement:

"The time is now to establish an international regime for the utilization of surplus marine resources for the global food demands. We should not regard the whaling issue as an isolated case. It should be treated as a fundamental example of wise and sustainable utilization of wildlife and marine living resources."

Please feel free to send this plankton-for-brains an E-mail message describing how you would like to see him impaled with an exploding harpoon and neatly packaged on a shelf in the Tokyo Safeway. Be creative. Messages should be long and sent as often as possible. It is sure to give your hard disk a warm tingly feeling.

—Elwood Pleebus, Nerds First!

SPIKES FOR BRAINS

Dear EF! J and Fellow Apocalyptics,

The tree-spiking debate continues! The articles and letters debating spiking in the Yule and Brigid issues were interesting, but it seems to me that this is a controversy that should be left up to the various EF! chapters—or preferably to each individual EF!er. Does an EF! group in Maine have the right to tell an EF! group in California whether they should be spiking or not? I'm not sure. As was correctly pointed out in the article, "To Spike or Not to Spike," spiking is only one tactic, and whether it should be used or not depends entirely on the situation at hand. In a place where it's important to have support from loggers or such folks, spiking may not be in the best interests of the cause. "No Compromise" doesn't mean shooting (or spiking) yourself in the foot. On the other hand, some last-ditch efforts to save important wildlands might be enhanced by spiking.

The problem with spiking is that it's quite easily dismissed as "anti-human terrorism" in the mainstream media. In New Hampshire, where I'm from originally, whenever I mentioned Earth First! to people they would say, "Aren't those the tree spikers, the terrorists?" Personally, I'd like to be known for more than just that.

Enough with this argument, already!

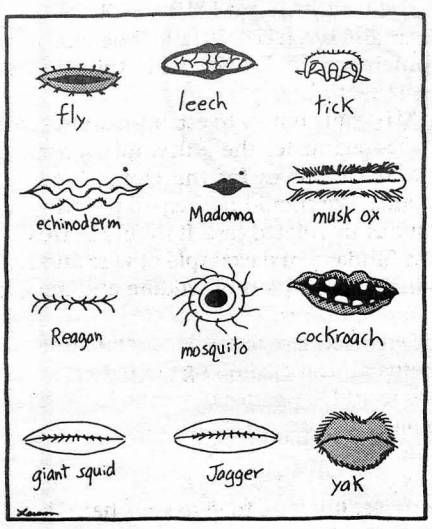
Another old problem-thing that seems to have crept into recent discussions is the question of how PC should we all be—that is, whether EF! should try to stamp out racism, misogyny, homophobia, etc. from its ranks and from the entire world. Here's a proposal from me, an unabashed left-wing homosexual (with some help from Aldo Leopold): anything that does not preserve the integrity, stability, and beauty of the Earth, as well as the ability of Earth First! to preserve said stuff, is bad. If I have to worry about you yapping about niggers, feminazis, and faggots, I'm going to get distracted, and there's going to be a conflict between two people who should be working together to save the Earth. Let's make enemies with the Wise Abusers, not each other. Nuff said.

I just began reading the *Journal* when I started college in New York City a few months ago (I needed a small antidote to the materialist/industrial mania that defines this place) so I can't offer any brilliant comments on what future issues should look like or contain. But I will give a couple suggestions. If you go to a magazine format, I would hope that you wouldn't lose any space or total wordage, since these days activists need as much news and info as we can possibly get. In the future, I'd love to hear what sorts of anti-enviro bullshit people are encountering across the country and world. With the apotheosis of Newt and the Apostles, it's important to understand every possible type of attack and disinformation that we'll encounter. The fights I've seen lost have been lost because our side misjudged the commitment and strategies of the Wise Abusers and their ilk, and so lost support from the general public.

Organize, organize, organize!

Sincerely,

—Matthew Cheney



Lips of the animal kingdom

Dear Shinola-for-Brains (Cause sometimes you guys don't know shit from shinola, that's why.),

What's all this goat blather and bull pippy about spiking? Seems as if you're wasting an awful lot of valuable space which could be put to better use printing my incredibly witty, although sometimes irreverent, articles titled "On The Road With The Ancient Forest Bus Brigade." Whatsamatter, youse guys don't think I writes gud no more?

Nevertheless, we might as well put our two cents: Be it known that the AFBB (or at least Cindy, Bones, and moi, the three Brigadiers intelligent enough to spend the winter in Mexico) unequivocally endorse spiking, and here's Cindy's recipe to help you get started:

CINDY'S SPIKED PUNCH

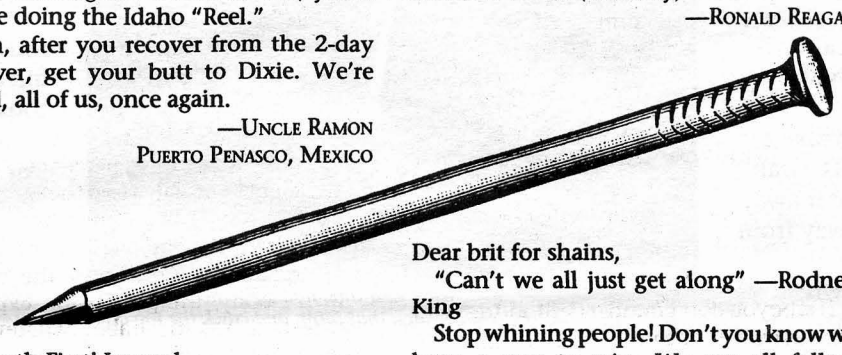
1 Quart can pineapple juice
1 Quart can orange juice
1 Pint grapefruit juice
4 Ounces Triple Sec or Cointreau
1 Bottle (1/5 of a gallon) of "Everclear" 180 proof vodka.

Mix together in a large punch bowl or garbage can with ice, and garnish with lemon and lime slices and anything else you can dumpster dive, except radishes.

Now share a couple of styrofoam mugs of this with your favorite logging couple. Levity and dancing will ensue. In fact, you'll soon be doing the Idaho "Reel."

Then, after you recover from the 2-day hangover, get your butt to Dixie. We're needed, all of us, once again.

—Uncle Ramon
Puerto Penasco, Mexico



Dear Earth First! Journal,

Judi Bari wrote clearly and thoughtfully in her "Secret History of Tree Spiking" (Yule 94). She addressed a key issue for Earth First!ers: who are we targeting? Where are we directing our energy in defense of the Earth? Witnessing destruction of forests and other ecosystems can make us angry, self-righteous, and callous. Dave Foreman's incredibly unsympathetic response to mill worker George Anderson's injury exhibits this attitude: "I think it's unfortunate that somebody got hurt, but ... , I am more concerned about old growth forests, spotted owls and wolverines and salmon, and nobody is forcing people to cut those trees" (from JB's article, Yule 94).

While I understand and relate to the tremendous sense of frustration with society, corporations, and individuals for our consumptive and destructive ways, we need to think about how to channel our energy. Anger and frustration can be put to good use, but only if well-directed. As Judi Bari pointed out, "George Anderson is not the enemy. He has no say over his bosses' policies, either in or out of the mill. Well, I shouldn't be driving a car either, but that doesn't make it okay to put a bomb in it."

Darryl Cherney recently gave a great workshop and show here in NJ, and afterward we had a party. I was one of the last to leave, and on the way downstairs I noticed a note on a neighbor's board. It said, "EF! Fuck shit up!"

Is this our only agenda—to randomly fuck shit up? Is this the best way to articulate it? NO! Earth First!ers have a lot to offer: energy, passion, anger, joy and strength. We need to help each other stay strong and joyful in the face of hopelessness and despair. We need to topple the power structure, end corporate-industrial-capitalist consumtionism, and learn to live lightly, and we need all the grassroots energy we can get.

Let's unite and choose our battles wisely. Together we can fight the selfishness, shortsightedness, and greed which are killing the Earth and all its creatures. Earth First!

—Marion H.

Dear SFB:

I have been reading the debates about tree-spiking in the recent *Journals* with interest. There are some who have been saying that tree-spiking is no longer an effective wilderness protection method. That may or may not be true of large timber sales in the National Forests. I can't speak to that.

On a smaller scale, however, let's say some department store chain wanted to clear a couple hundred acres of wooded land to put up another one of their giant, ugly-ass stores. A concerned person might think that those woods are better left to the deer and rabbits. A concerned person might read up about tree spiking in her or his copy of *Ecodefense*, aquire the necessary materials, sneak in one night and thoroughly spike the trees on that land. That person might then write a letter to the chain's headquarters (never mind the press) and politely explain why they might not want to clear the trees on that land anymore. This tactic just might work, and that land might remain un"developed" to this day. (It's not old-growth, but at least it's not another fucking Wal-Mart).

In closing, I would just like to say that in regards to the spiking issue, I side more strongly with the sentiment expressed by Roselle and Paul Watson than that of Judi Bari. Just Do It! (carefully)

—Ronald Reagan

Dear brit for shains,

"Can't we all just get along" —Rodney King

Stop whining people! Don't you know we have a war to win. We are all fellow ecowarriors, let's not forget that. I have noticed some tension among the ranks lately, and it seems to me that divisiveness will get us nowhere.

I welcome debate on an issue such as tree-spiking. Disagreement on tactics and how we are perceived by the general(ly wasteful) public are both necessary and healthy for the radical ecology movement. What needs to stop is the bickering I have perceived in its many forms: computer printed vs. hand written; leather shoes vs. canvass; Dave Foreman vs. Dave Foreman; national environmental groups: allies or sellouts; cars vs. bikes; vegetarian vs. vegan; anti-fur vs. anti-abortion; hunting vs. gathering; spy vs. spy.

Everyone has their vices. Some EF!ers use computers, but certainly wouldn't throw them out for an upgrade every year. Some EF!ers wear leather, but would never touch fur. Some EF!ers are Sierra Club members, but would never support the Democratic Party. Some EF!ers drive cars to get to a demo or CD, but would never buy a bran new Mitsubishi. Some EF!ers eat cheese omelets, but would never touch a steak. Some EF!ers hunt when in the wild, but would never kill a grizzly or a cougar. The point is, none of us are saints! I live as minimally as possible, donate the money I can afford, and spend wads of my time for the movement. But, alas, every winter I go downhill skiing a couple of times; in my mind I am no less committed than anyone else.

The way I see it, anyone doing absolutely anything to protect this planet and its critters is on my side. It's the 90 percent of the population, living in their apathy and consumerism, who, along with the multinationals, are what we are fighting against. Vegetarian activists, monkeywrenchers, Wilderness Society lobbyists, cycling advocates, conservationists, armchair activists, environmental lawyers, animal liberators unite! Although some of us are more involved, and more dedicated, remember, we are all fighting the same war ... let's win!

—Philip Goff
New Yawk Shitty

Dear Editor,

I read your articles on tree spiking by Judi Bari and Mike Roselle in the February-March 1995 issue. From your letters column, it seems that this debate has been raging for some time. If my arguments are redundant, please dismiss them as such, but I don't think they are.

Both Roselle and Bari make good points. I think Roselle is right in that tree spiking enables forest defenders to operate from a position of strength and shifts political debate toward the defenders' agenda. I think Bari is right in that spiking causes real human suffering (as in the case of George Alexander), results in backlash violence against forest defenders, does not stop tree sales and the economic costs of spiking are absorbed by taxpayers as many spiked trees are on public lands.

The question then, is how to achieve Roselle's goals while meeting Bari's concerns. This may not be entirely possible, but it may be partially possible.

The bulk of trees cut end up as lumber or paper. When pulp mill employees get angry at their employers, they drop the plastic top of a disposable pen into the pulper. Under the heat and pressure inside the pulper, that plastic is melted and dispersed through miles of pulp, making an entire day's production unfit for sale. This can cost a paper company tens of thousands of dollars. In times of labor unrest at pulp mills, mill owners ban all plastic at mills and search employees on the way in. Ask around, if you haven't heard of it.

If you haven't been reading carefully, what I'm talking about is spiking trees with plastic spikes. These spikes would be inserted the same as a ceramic spike. Extra care should be taken to completely caulk the spike in place, because these trees are going through a chipper and you want this spike to be chipped into a dozen pieces, each embedded in its own piece of wood. Also, try to use tan [colored] plastic. One spike per 50 trees should be sufficient to screw up production each and every day that the paper company uses trees from the spiked area.

The advantages of this kind of spiking are:

- No one gets their face cut off when the spike hits a sawblade or a chipper. That doesn't mean that millworkers won't still be angry with forest defenders, it may mean that the forest defenders get a better hearing with the general public.
- The economic damage occurs inside a facility owned by the corporate bad guys. True, these costs will be passed along to the customer, but the only companies who have to pass them along will be those who continue to cut where you don't want them to.
- Imagine what this will do for corporate international relations if these wood chips are sent to pulp mills overseas.
- Plastic spikes are undetectable in the tree. Once the pulp mills get a dose of this medicine, a threatened plastic spiking may become almost as effective as a real one.

The disadvantages of this kind of spiking are:

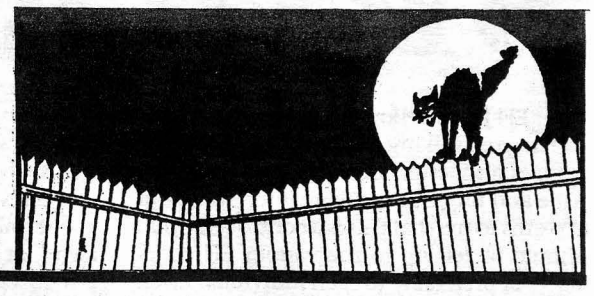
- It doesn't mess with sawtimber. This is somewhat mitigated by the fact that the same company that is cutting sawtimber probably has some pulping capacity, so you are dipping into the same wallet.
- Plastic production is bad for the environment.

The overall benefit is that it once again allows the forest defender to deliver a message from a position of strength, and it does so in the only language the corporations understand: money. As long as cutting a tree is cheaper than buying a bale of kenaf or a ton of recycled paper, the paper companies will keep on cutting.

In the end, I can't say if this is a good or bad idea. I probably haven't thought this whole thing through. I'm sure that when other people (like Bari and Roselle) think this through they will identify new advantages and disadvantages. So think about it.

—Reynard

DEAR NED LUDD



DEAR NED LUDD IS A REGULAR FEATURE IN THE *EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL* FOR DISCUSSION OF CREATIVE MEANS OF EFFECTIVE DEFENSE AGAINST THE FORCES OF INDUSTRIAL TOTALITARIANISM. NEITHER THE EARTH FIRST! MOVEMENT NOR THE *EARTH FIRST! JOURNAL* NECESSARILY ENCOURAGE ANYONE TO DO ANY OF THE THINGS DISCUSSED IN DEAR NED LUDD.

GOLF COURSE MAINTENANCE

Dear Nedd Ludd:

With springtime approaching its time to start thinking *golf*! The perennial sport of the aristocrat and the poser aristocrat. As you awake and look out over that prairie turned atomic green fairway here's a few tips on making your mom more cheerful.

What makes a golf course? One thing, and that's water! Anything you can do to dry up a golf course will be productive. Even two dry days will take the green out of the grass and the spring out of the step of golfers and greens keepers alike. Forget all that you have heard about pouring gasoline or Roundup on the greens. Don't even bother carving up the tee's or stealing golf carts. Just cut off that IV from the aquifer.

Here is how to do it effectively. First you need to find out if it is the old style of sprinklers or the modern ones. Head out when the water is on. This is usually at night when there are no golfers. If they are higher than six inches from the ground and metal they are the old ones. If they are really short and plastic they are modern.

If they turn out to be old you will need to take a good backpack but you won't need any tools. Grab the top part with the spray nozzle and point it away from yourself, being sure to get the ticker away from the stream of water. Now grab the little pipe that sticks out of trunk of the sprinkler. Push down firmly using that pipe as a handle and pull it clockwise. You have to pull firmly. There is a notch in the socket and you have to line up a little brass nub on the pipe with that notch. The sprinkler will then pop up and the water will shut off automatically. Stuff that sprinkler in your bag and move on.

The whole idea here is that each of these sprinklers cost between sixty and a hundred dollars, and they have to be ordered from the factory. Most golf courses have no extras. So, the time between them getting swiped and replaced is drought.

If you have time and are serious about drying the course up, bring a nine inch length of rebar (rebar is the steel rods used in concrete work, about a half inch wide). There is a spring operated brass valve in the hole the sprinkler came out of and that is what you are after. Simply force the rebar into the whole, hard. Now that valve is shot, but you've also got a geyser on your hands. My suggestion is to remove about half a dozen sprinklers then go back and nail the valves. Now you are big time.

The most obvious question here is "If I create a geyser won't that add to the problem of wasting water?" The answer is yes, in the short term water will be wasted. But over the next week as repairs are made, and water is shut off, the grass will be dry.

When working with the old style of irrigation there are a few important things to remember. The most important is that they are brass and steel and this makes them awkward and heavy to carry. I recommend locating an obscure drop spot, outside the course perimeter and stowing them there as you get weighted down. You can pick them up when you are completely finished. You don't want to have to dump a nights work to outrun Officer Friendly.

At this point you are probably wondering "What the fuck am I supposed to do with a hundred pounds of evidence?" DON'T RECYCLE THEM! Even though brass is worth over fifty cents a pound at recycling, don't give into temptation. You would have to recycle a thousand pounds just to cover your bail.

My suggestion? Offer the sprinklers up to your nearest urban river. Throw them in and offer a prayer of thanks. Hell, it's no worse than those burnt goat sacrifices as far as pollution. Just get rid of the damn sprinklers.

Swing your nine iron carpenter's hammer, watch that form, and crack the top off.

Now for them newfangled modern golf courses. As with everything, modernization brings convenience. In other words these are fucking cake. Two tools! A carpenters hammer and a six-inch flathead screwdriver. Remember though, these tools retain a museum quality fingerprint so wear gloves in case you lose your tools on the course.

Head out to the first tee, look around, and you will see, flush with the sod, little black circles. They look just like the sprinklers rich people have in their yards only a little bigger. These are your targets.

There will be a small space between the outer casing and the "pop up" innards. Slide your driver in that space and pry it up and hold it. With your other paw, swing your nine iron carpenters hammer, watch that form, and crack the top off. No messy brass evidence, just swing and move on.

Before I continue here are a few definitions for the layperson.

Fairway: Long narrow strip of longer, relatively unkempt grass, usually lined with trees and shrubs. Between the "tee" and the "green."

Tee: Real short grass in a square. Usually beat to hell and riddled with debris from wooden tees.

Green: This is the short grass where the hole is. Look for a goofy flag. It is usually very smooth, and well cared for.

When you are cutting off a courses water supply, think one thing: *greens*! Your golfer can deal with fading fairways, or maybe a tan tee. But, if the green is anything less than a shade of Chem Lawn Green, your golfer will flip his lid. If the greens are not green the golfers will quit coming, period.

Dry greens are what Greens Keepers wake up in the night crying and sucking their thumb in a cold sweat about. A dry green is the end of a Greens Keeper's job.

Hit the greens first, and repeatedly. Every time the sprinklers are replaced hit them again. Forget the fairways. Take no notice of the tee's. Just nail those greens.

Also remember that timing is everything in golf course "maintenance." Removing sprinklers in March doesn't do much good. Wait until the rainy season is done then hit it hard.

A quick note on security. There is virtually no security. I worked as a night waterman and security guard at a municipal golf course for four months. I was specifically told not to mess with anyone that trespassed. I was instructed to call 911 and let the herbies deal with any vandals. The one time I ended up doing so, it took the cops fifty minutes to arrive. When they finally did they shined their lights in the trees and split.

Remember also, you will see the security guard long before he sees you. This is because he'll be in a lit up and noisy buggy and you should be padding around silently on foot. If one of the security guards actually runs you down, you are probably better off in jail to protect you from yourself.

In other words, the security personnel don't want to find you. They don't know what kind of nut case you are or how mean you are. When I was working, the guards patrolling were either scared shitless, or drunk on tap beer from the club house.

Also, don't hurt them, or fuck with them personally. They are not there for the love of golf, they're working stiffs, and it is bad karma to fuck with a working person.

So now you know. Go get busy. And if you get really serious about drying out a golf course, get hired on. You'll make some extra dough while conserving precious water.

THE MILITARY IS WAGING WAR ON THE EARTH

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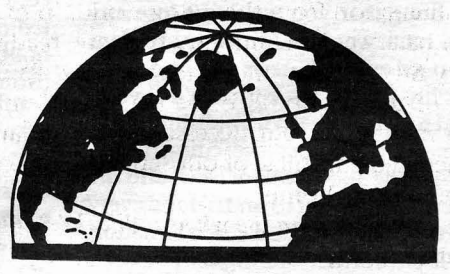

In Defense of the Northern Rockies

woodland caribou etc. on front,
"REBEL AGAINST EXTINCTION"
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ROBERT IS SIMPLY SMASHING

ROBERT HOYT'S NEW TAPE/CD: *DUMPSTER DIVING ACROSS AMERICA*

REVIEWED BY MICHELLE STEWART

Just when I thought I knew all my eco-tapes word for word, Robert Hoyt saved me from myself. Conveniently in time for the Austin Activist Conference, Robert released his second tape (and first CD), appropriately named *Dumpster Diving Across America.*

For anyone that has seen Robert play in the last 18 months, some of the songs on this new tape will sound happily familiar, with many of them well on their way to becoming campfire favorites.

From its beginning, *Dumpster Diving* leaves you with a feel for the lifestyle that Robert and his cat Claude led. Robert has a keen ability to conjure up down-to-earth musical imagery. He also has a hell of a sense of sarcasm and well-timed wit. A good example of this is in the legal drug-induced song "Gasoline and Coffee." The lyrics of the first verse drive us through a tired night on the road ... almost out of gas and about four hours overdue on sleep. However, as we move through the song the lyrics begin to move in a bit of a different direction:

"Cause one exploited people
And the other destroyed the wild
A cup of Guatemalan blood will get me there on time
Powered by another tank of Alaskan North Coast slime."

Along with Robert's down home lyrics comes his musical feel for the Southeast. Within the first few moments of "Atchafalaya," the listener is treated to some down-in-the-dirt bluegrass sounds. This song, about a little stop on an interstate in Louisiana, is one of those feel-good tunes that can easily get stuck in your head if you aren't careful.

"Trees" is a ballad adapted from a poem by Joyce Kilmer. Perfectly placed in the first part of the tape, it tastefully puts this famous poem to sweet music. Songs such as these, on both of Robert's tapes, are the subtle reminders of why we are in this movement.

When I first began working on this review I intentionally listened to it within different circles of folks so I could get their feedback. Here's what others noticed about the tape:

When listening to the tape, most folks were not surprised to find out that Robert is from Georgia. It seems that Robert is yet another artist in this movement who musically represents his bioregion, as does west coaster Casey Neill. His strong acoustic sounds and the bluegrass twang make his music have a sound all its own.

My musician friends enjoyed Robert's style. The song "Don't Wake Me Up in the Morning," is a favorite of many due to the high energy sounds and a strong Celtic influence. Another noted attribute of his work are the diverse harmonies on many songs. Randy Auxier backs up many of the songs with a deep, strong voice; on other songs Robert backs himself up ... something I really would like to see him try to do at a Round River Rendezvous (RRR)!

As a personal touch, Robert gives an insight to each song, and how it evolved, on the liner notes (which, by the way, are 100 percent tree-free). Throughout all of these little written blurbs it becomes apparent that the influences on this tape are both diverse and unique unto themselves: they range from Phil Ochs to road maps and coffee to the wild and beautiful land we are trying to defend.

All in all, I really liked Robert's new tape. It is about time we got some new eco-tunes to listen to between the RRRs and roadshows. For those of you who feel the same way, you should know that Peg Millett has also released a new CD/tape. Flash some cash at the *Journal* and support these activists who need all the help they can get. In the same regards, Robert is currently on tour so keep an eye out for him and maybe you'll see him in your neck of the woods.

I thank all the musicians in this movement who help us remember that it is just as important to laugh as it is to cry. Your music helps a lot of us cope with this crazy world for a few months here and there when we can't be out in the wild places we love and defend.

"Dumpster Diving Across America" is available through the Earth First! Journal *(see page 37). "American as You," Robert's debut tape is also available through the* Journal *but is soon to be out of print until further notice.*

The Final Empire —A Book by Wm. H. Kötke—

REVIEWED BY WOLF HARDIN

While there are thousands of environmental, political and self-help books on the market, few trace the root of personal powerlessness and disorientation to our systemic alienation from the living world. In the search for individual, social and ecological balance, I recommend that one read the works of the brilliant Barbara Mor, Gary Snyder, the underrated *maestro* Paul Shepard and the self-published visionary of the coming Ecozoic era, my friend Bill Kötke. *The Final Empire* is a thorough manual for our necessary and fundamental reinhabitation of self and place, a detailed chronicle of our separation from the body-planet, and a map for the return journey home.

"We are estranged from the whole of life. We suffer from separation and to the degree that we cannot recognize that source of suffering, it increases. We need to release the contraction, the defense, the barrier, and reunify. The forces and patterns that have enabled life on earth, flow when the patterns are resonant on all levels. We cannot expect sufficient power from the sources unless we are centered and balanced personally, socially and then the human group is set within the life of the earth in a balanced way ... If people don't actually get out of the money economy to a significant degree, if they don't create a new land-based culture that aids the earth, all the other political and environmental efforts will ultimately be meaningless."

The first half of his book details the inevitable collapse of business as usual, beginning with ancient civilization's impoverishment of the soil, the crucial groundwork for life on this planet. Kötke recounts over ten thousand years of systematic exploitation and toxification of the land and water, mass extinctions, and cultural dynamics and psychology of modern colonialist empire. This is no book of reform, but rather one that finds hope in the wild human heart, and a wholesome future in the period after the collapse of the multinational economic world-state. Unlike so many other authors, he is forthright in expressing what so many feel but are unwilling to take responsibility for—the necessary and inevitable dissolution of civilization itself.

"...world society is trapped within a system of cultural assumptions and patterns of behavior from which it cannot extricate itself. There is no way out. There will be a collapse of civilization."

And within the compost of the fallen empire lies the certainty of seed. The second half of the book is a blueprint for a life in balance, including the re-creation of deliberate, non-hierarchical tribes, and earth-friendly foraging and sedentary models. From reality conditioning to self-sustaining permaculture, Kötke offers a set of positive lifestyle choices for post-paradigm survivors. Most importantly, these involve conscious, deliberate changes that can be made even now, with "technobabylon" at its apex.

"The crisis of our era offers us paradise. It offers us the opportunity to shed the tensions and dangers of civilization so that we may create a new world. Creating new culture is not an activity of gratification deferred in pursuit of a distant goal but of immediate increase in the satisfaction of life."

The final chapters examine a particular "permaculture of place," in an intimate ecological exploration of a self-sufficient, earth-honoring existence in the mountainous Southwest. In the collapse of Tula and Babylon there resides the *world perfect.* And that collapse begins in the opening human heart.

The Final Empire inspires us to re-create that perfection through relationship with whatever bioregion we've chosen. Paradise, after all, is the condition of oneness with self and planet, of passionate bonding with place ... and the daily prayerful effort to regain our lost balance.

The Final Empire is available from Arrow Point Press for $20; PO Box 14754, Portland, OR 97214.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SPRING RENDEZVOUS IN BEAUTIFUL BRITISH COLUMBIA

Rendezvous: from French, a gathering of lost souls, an opportunity to strengthen the tribe, a time to plot the collapse of industrial civilization.

Yanks and Canucks alike: Yes! It's true! We want you at the first ever EF! Rendezvous on the Canadian side of the border. Let's move beyond our artificial boundary numbness and work together on saving some of the most pristine and spectacular wilderness on this lovely planet.

Consider sticking around after the rendezvous to create some serious tourism. This year's Bear Watch/ Grizzly Project campaign, Vancouver EF!'s Wetlands Project and Forest Action Network's campaign to save the mainland coast from future logging all need your support.

Directions:

From Vancouver, take the TransCanada Highway (No 1) east for 84 km to exit 104/Cultus Lake. From the exit ramp curve south (right) onto No 3 road, proceed approximately five km to a "T." Turn right onto Tolmie Road. In 15 meters take a left onto the continuation of No 3 Road. Follow this into the town of Yarrow (where there's a small army surplus store), turn left onto Yarrow Central Road and proceed through town. Drive another five-ten km on the same road and then immediately after crossing a bridge over the Chilliwack River (Vedder Crossing), turn right onto the Chilliwack River Road. The pavement ends after 27 km; after another 12 km continue straight onto Chilliwack Forest Service Road.

After about eight km, just past Pale Face Creek Campsite, turn right, go through the open area and take the middle fork road over the bridge. Follow the road along the east shore of Chilliwack Lake. Turn right at Depot Creek and cross the bridge. You will finally arrive at Sappers Park Campsite which is five km past Pale Face Creek.

You will be camping on a beach at the south end of Chilliwack Lake, gazing at the granite cliffs of Mount Lindeman and other North Cascade peaks, strolling through a forest of ancient western red cedar, Douglas fir, western hemlock, sitka spruce, and black cottonwood. You will be in the company of bobcats, wolves, martens, fisher, pacific giant salamander, cougars, black bears and perhaps a rare grizzly.

Weather here is unpredictable, so bring clothing and camping gear suitable for conditions that could be hot, cold, wet, or dry! Water is plentiful, but bring a filter or purification tablets.

Your dawg is *not* cordially invited, and we may ask you to stay in "Dawg Camp" if you decide that bowser needs to come along for the fun.

Border Tips: Be aware that your dog may have just as many problems as you getting across the border. Your dog will need written proof of having had all of its shots or you will not be allowed across! You will be required to show ID (possibly) to get across. Border officials and inspectors may have any number of things they require of you. One thing to keep in mind is that they like to see you have a certain amount of cash on hand... their ideal is $50 per day that you plan to be in BC. There are at least four borders within the area; you do not have to cross at Peace Arch. Just alter the directions accordingly, the TransCanada highway (No 1) is not hard to access from any of these borders. If you have any problems crossing just remember... "the early bird catches the worm," and if all else fails "if you don't succeed try, try again!"

Provincial Tips: Your first lesson in BC will be that alcohol and tobacco are priced like gold here and you will do best to buy on your side of the border. The other costly good here is gasoline; be sure to fill up before crossing.

If you will be needing a ride to the site, please leave a message on our voice mail in advance, and come early. We do not have a lot of vehicles and do not want to be doing a lot of shuttles.

We will also be asking for your money... politely (at first). There will be a sliding rendez fee of $20. Don't hesitate to give us American money since the currency exchange is nearly 60 percent. Good deal for us, eh!

Come one, come all. Our voicemail number is (604) 473-0174.

WALK ACROSS EUROPE
FOR A NUKE FREE WORLD

For Mother Earth, an independent non-profit grassroots organization which organizes initiatives to promote human-rights, disarmament and protection of the natural environment, invites activists to join a "Walk Across Europe for a Nuclear-Free World." The walk began in Brussels on January 12, 1995 and will continue until it reaches Moscow in October. The present situation calls for our walking to not only be on the streets, but trespassing nuclear site areas, into government officials' offices and into jail cells if necessary.

For more information contact the North American office, 1101 Bryden Road, Columbus, Ohio 43205, (614) 252-9255, E-mail: walk@igc.apc.org. The international office address is Zilverhof, 19. 9.000 Gent, Belgium, phone +32-9-233.32.68, Fax +32-9-233-49-24, E-mail: motherearth@gn.apc. org, postal account 000-1618561-19.

Northeast Regional Rendezvous

The Northeast Regional EF! Beltane Rendezvous will be held April 28-30 on Wassumkeag (aka Sears Island), Maine. Wassumkeag, a 940-acre island in beautiful Penobscot Bay, is the site of a proposed cargo port which would be used to ship the remainder of Maine's trees, in the form of chips, overseas. Come help us protect the island and the last of the Maine woods!!! Plan for the possibility of wet, cold weather and the certainty of a helluva good time. Naked dancing by the campfire optional. Boy scouts and girl scouts welcome. Don't eat the clams!!! For more information contact Ron Huber, PO Box 1811, Rockland, ME 04841, (207) 596-7693 or E-mail Maine EF! in care of ENVINV@aol.com.

Heartwood Conference

Heartwood will be holding its fifth annual Heartwood Forest Council, May 26-29, at the Bluestone Conference Center on Bluestone Lake, near Hinton, West Virginia. This year's Forest Council will offer people of all ages an opportunity to learn about the history and diversity of the native Appalachian forest, and about how to organize in their local communities to protect the forests from waste and destruction. Nature tours, workshops, and practical training will be offered. Healthy meals and nightly entertainment will also provide opportunities for people to meet their neighbors from throughout the Heartwood Region.

Heartwood is a coalition of forest activists and groups in the "Central Hardwood Region" who have organized public support for an end to destructive logging on our remaining public forests. The Central Hardwood Region extends from the mid-Atlantic states of Maryland, Pennsylvania, and New Jersey to Missouri, Texas, and Arkansas, and from the headwaters of the Mississippi to the Tennessee River Valley. Heartwood is seeking to expand the circle of knowledgeable citizens working in their communities to protect local forests. For more information contact Bill Ragette at (304) 824-3571 or Kim Baker at (304) 522-9124.

Calling for Submission!

The Earth First! Primer is being rewritten to keep it current (It still has some Montana address?). We here at the Journal are willing to put it together (in our free time, HAH!), but we need articles, photos and graphics from you. Rewrite EF! history! Expose yourself on film! Dabble in doodles, whatever! Just get it to us before May 1st and we will send you (and anyone else that asks) as many copies as you want. Because that's what we do here dammit, and we love you people.

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Back: Edward Abbey quote: "It is not enough to understand the Natural World; the point is to defend and preserve it."
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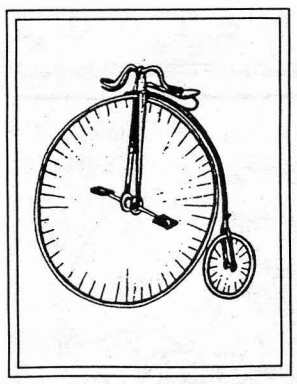
Critical Mass to Headwaters

Every day is Earth Day now that the Headwaters Forest Issue has reached Critical Mass!



A coalition of northern California activists are calling for an Earth Day gathering and "critical mass" bicycle ride to be held Sunday April 23, 1995. This event will raise awareness about the Headwaters Forest and help build momentum toward a summer of actions for its protection. The ride will demonstrate our commitment to the forest and the huge public interest in issue (see article front page). Headwaters Forest is the largest unprotected stand of old growth redwood forest left in the world and is less than ten miles from Eureka in Humboldt County, California. The bike ride is planned to help rally support for a "Dept for Nature" swap between Headwaters Forest and the $1.6 billion Charles Hurwitz owes taspayers for the 1988 bailout of his failed savings and loan in Texas. In 1986, Hurwitz used the assets from his savings and loan to finance Maxxam's hostile take over of Pacific Lumber.

The bicycle ride will begin in Eureka and go south. through the city to the Park and Ride off Highway 101 at the Elk River road exit. After a stop for refreshments and a rally with music and updates about the Headwaters situation, the ride will continue to the edge of the Headwaters Forest.

The specter of a Republican congress and the Maxxam/PL media monster mowing down our children's heritage bodes poorly on our vision of a sustainable future. Please, bring your friends and family to this gala Earth Day event. For more information contact Randy Ghent at (707) 839-5847 or Dave Walsh at (707) 923-2931.

McDonald's 40th Birthday Celebration!

On April 15, 1955, McDonald's opened their first store in Des Plaines, Illinois. They now operate in over 70 countries and have approximately 15,000 stores worldwide. They are constantly expanding, particularly at the moment into Eastern Europe and the Baltic States. McDonald's recently announced that they are to open 50 more stands in the UK. The exploitation of people, animals and the environment, which they are responsible for, increases. But at the same time opposition to McDonald's grows. There is criticism and protest in every country in which they operate.

On April 15, 1995, their 40th anniversary, let's make it clear that there are many people who are angry about the devastation of the Earth, deaths of billions of animals, exploitation of workers and advertising hype. At the same time, we will be celebrating ten years of international protests against McDonald's and all they stand for.

Picket local McDonald's stores everywhere; send McDonald's trash back to their headquarters; be creative! Let's make this an anniversary to remember.

For more information contact McLibel Support Campaign, 5 Caledonian Road, London, N1 9DX, phone/fax 0171 713 1269.

Prairie Island Peace Camp

The Peace Camp at Prairie Island nuke plant began January 28, two days after the first nuclear waste storage casks arrived at the site in Minnesota. The nuke plant's deadly decision to produce and store radioactive waste in the middle of the Mississippi—700 meters from the Mdewakanton Dakota community—follows a long tradition of industrial lunacy and environmental racism. Already tritium, a radioactive byproduct, has been detected in the river and well water. The human cancer risk is six times the acceptable state standards and breast cancer deaths have increased 43 percent since 1980.

Come spend a day, a night, or a month at the Peace Camp, or help support it with food and supply donations. A day at Peace Camp includes cooking community meals, discussions, planning actions, writing letters and articles, singing, drumming and being strong and happy with each other and the earth.

Peace Camp is located east of Interstate 61 Minnesota. Take highway 361 off 61 then follow signs for the casino. For more information and directions call Sarah (612) 378-5099, or Dee and John (612) 788-8727 or write the Peace Camp at 5636 Sturgeon Lake Road, Welch, MN 55089

The Alarm is Out!

The Alarm, a Voice of Revolutionary Ecology presents the Wimmin's Edition, available now for ordering at PO Box 57, Burlington, VT 05402, USA. We have been asking $2.50 but, as this issue grew beyond our wildest dreams (and budget) with submissions from rad-environmental wimmin all over the US, Canada, Scotland, England, and Russia, we are now asking $5.00 from those who can afford it, as well as any donations people care to make, to enable us to distribute this issue widely to those of less means. We are also interested in hearing from willing distributors in all regions of the planet! For further info call Gidget at (802) 863-0571, fax (802) 863-2532, E-mail peacejustice@igc.apc.org.

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clear as cut glass & just as dangerous

seething in solitude

BY BAD DOGMA!

Even when I am here
Alone
Naked on the banks of Rhett Creek
Basking in the sun's radiance
lost in the soothing solitude
dark thoughts like dark clouds
still cast shadows on my thoughts
I cannot help but think
of those who deserve to die
for knowingly and contemptuously
raping our Mother Earth
I gave lingering visions of rightful dismemberments.

I know.
Violence is their answer
a direct by product of ignorance
non-violence is The only way
to truly reach our goal
but is there time for the long struggle?
Is it worth maintaining the moral high ground
if we lose the ground beneath our feet?
I do not know
and I am running out of time to decide.
I do know
that the guilty parties
have names and home addresses
These are a gift for someone
who fears not Hell of Bad Karma

I have a dream
in which I meet Charles Hurwitz
and I force-feed him
his grimy, blood-of-the-Earth soaked dollar bills
one by one
until he turns green
and chokes on them.

Barbaric? Maybe.
I am sorry.
I'm no saint.
I cannot say
forgive them, Mother,
for they know not what they do.
That bastard knows.
When he is buried
the Earth will reject his body
it will resurface
again and again
and I will be there
to dance on his grave.

ice storm

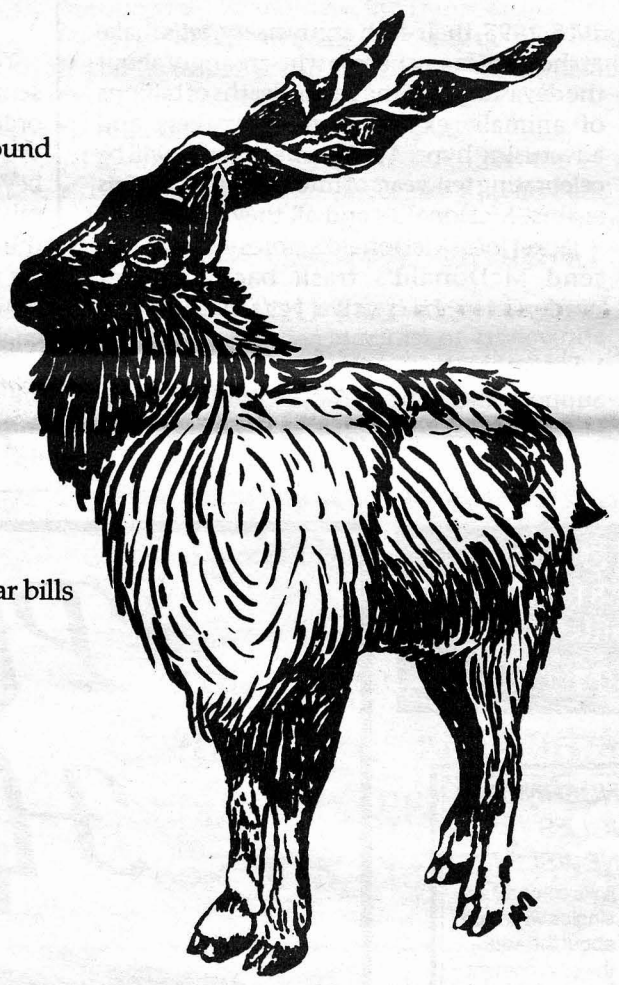
BY WENDY MCVICKER

All day the rain fell.
All day the sleet
coated the trees with ice,
each branch, each blade
of grass glimmering.
All day a darkness
like dusk.

nightlife

BY JENNY ARMETTA

"Burn baby Burn"–
You thought they were words to a
disco song.
But as I look at the big yellow scraper
The wreckage that was once Sonora
I light the match
and realize
They're words to live by!



SEND POEMS TO:
WARRIOR POETS SOCIETY
ASUC Box 361
Berkeley, CA 94720-4510

turn on, tear down, and blow up

BY TROY STONE

I look around and see desecrated earth
The whole world running in haste
Factories pumping out waste
It's enough to make me give up on rebirth

And I ask myself, can I make a difference
Or should I go along
Keeping humanity strong
By building yet another fence?

Hell no, I'll create my own beauty
Take a battering ram
And bust the dam
Spiking trees is my real duty

So I'm off to join the Monkey Wrench gang
Burning down billboards
I'm just destroying eyesores
Compulsive pyromaniac, I'll go out with a bang

You keep saying two wrongs don't make a right
Are you saying I shouldn't put up a fight?
Call me a realist, I'm no romantic
Call me a zealist, obsessive and manic
Call me anytime, I'm your gun for hire
'Cause there's nothing wrong with piss on the fire
Anything to put it out.

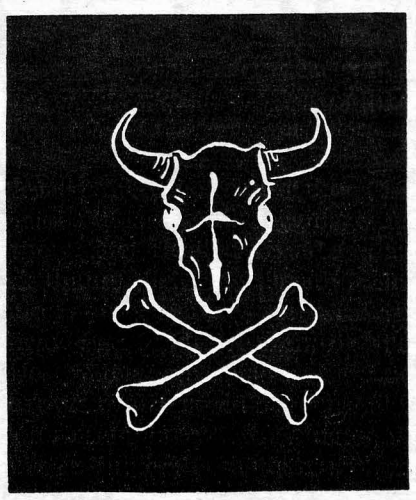
After the Breakdown

BY DWIGHT WORKER

Hidden inside moated neighborhoods
Cloned up with others like yourself
Praying for *that* world just to go away...
...but your security guards are not coming back
Most of your food, it was pre-frozen
Without electricity, it'll go bad pretty fast
But dry goods in bulk?—when the store was so near?
And instead of a garden, you've got your Chem-lawn grass

You ask each other whether you'll be safe
You don't ask *me*—but I think *I know*
After the breakdown, your land deeds are only as good
As your supply of food—*and ammo*

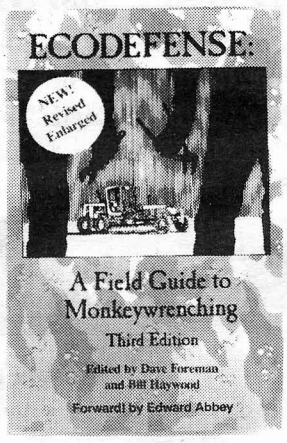
Without gas, are *you* going to *push your car?*
And escape? Now really—*Just where would you go?*
So barricade your doors and windows
–and *welcome, welcome, welcome*
to your own private Alamo



EARTH FIRST! GOODIES

Books

ECODEFENSE:
A Field Guide to Monkeywrenching
(1993) 3rd edition
By Dave Foreman & Bill Haywood
Ned Ludd Books 350 pages—$18



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The Monkeywrench Gang
By Edward Abby Fiction, 387 pages—$6

A Sand County Almanac
With Essays on Conservation from Round River
By Aldo Leopold, 295 pages—$9

Timber Wars and Other Writings
By Judi Bari, 89 pages—$12

Waste of the West: Public Lands Ranching
By Lynn Jacobs, 602 pages—$28

Wilderness on the Rocks
By Howie Wolke
Ned Ludd Books, 240 pages—$15

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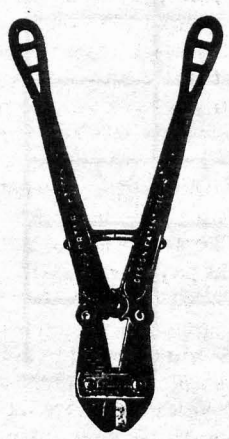

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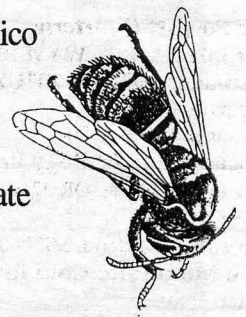

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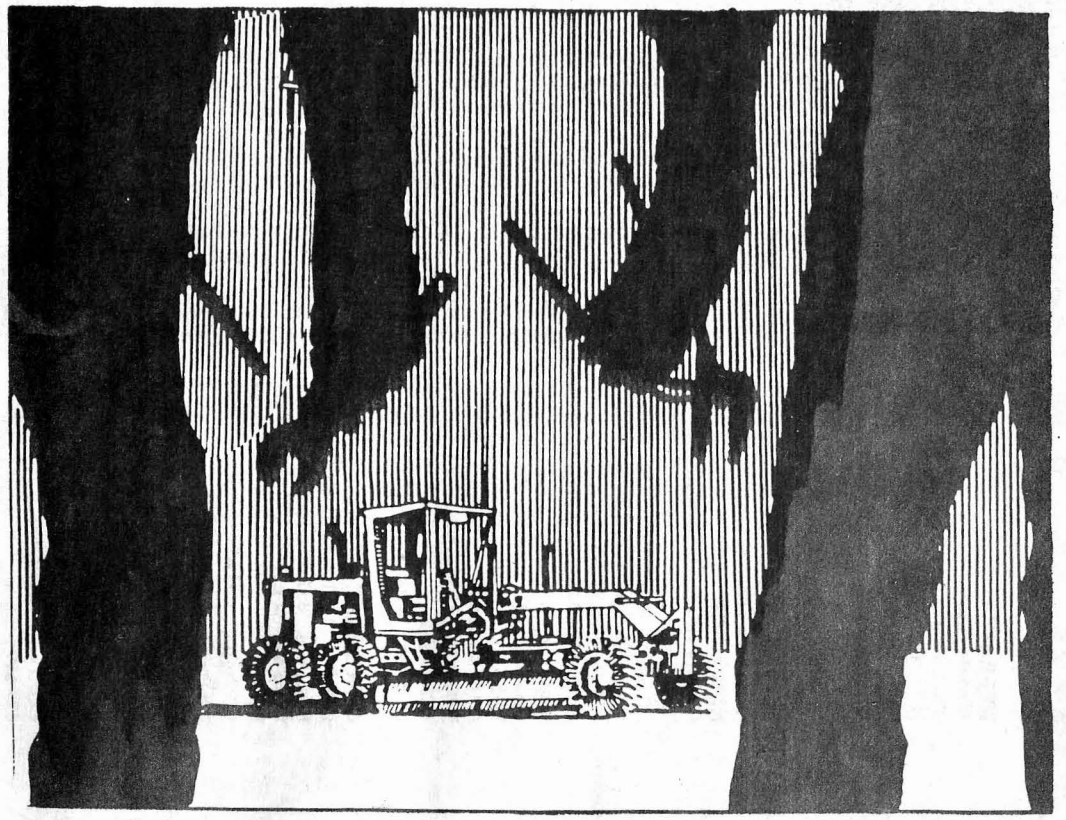

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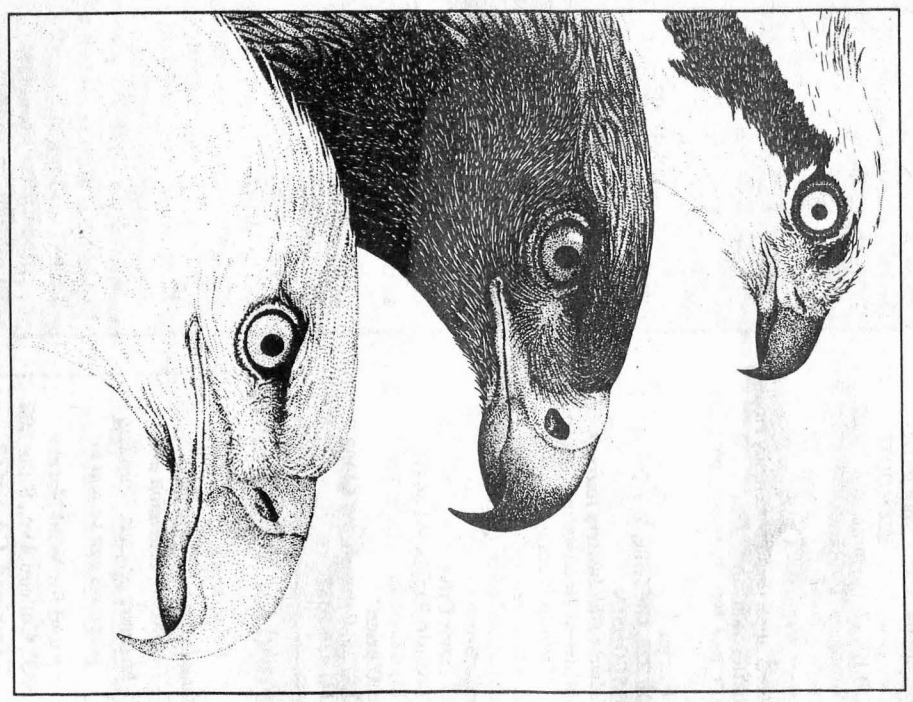

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